TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

February 15, 2006 LB 188

to chatting now and then throughout the year just on this whole problem and the fact that he never has a majority to repeal it, I never have a majority to fix it. But you know, in fairness to everybody that's running, we ought to make it right, as right as we can, or not have it. And that was the basic conclusion that Senator Brashear and I came to. And pursuant to that, we started putting in writing what an understanding would be between himself and myself. And I'll tell you a little bit more about that. But the first thing I need to tell you is that it's about Senator Brashear and myself, and to a certain extent Senator Schimek, but this understanding that was put in writing doesn't...has no legal effect whatsoever. It doesn't supersede or override our rules. The same debating process will pertain as always pertains. Nothing changes as far as everybody else in this Legislature is concerned. I think it would be fair to say that Senator Brashear and I are hopeful that the bill will not be filibustered by either side. And the process we hope to follow is the process of the order of amendments that are up there right now, and that process would be essentially this. There's a committee amendment, but the committee amendment is rather small, and the committee amendment has been incorporated into an amendment to the committee amendment. That amendment to the committee amendment, including the committee amendment, incorporates all of those things that proponents of the bill have put together to try to make it a whole piece that works a little bit better. Then you will have the ... you will have all the normal options that you have. You can, obviously, amend it or do whatever you please with it. But the thought is this, that whatever the form of that amendment is when we vote upon it, you can reject it and wait for Senator Brashear's motion to repeal the entire matter, or you can accept it and then consider his motion to repeal the entire matter. And obviously, you can do other things. But I think Senator Brashear and I, it's fair to say, hope that there's something fairly decisive out of this, in terms of giving the act more focus, making it work a little better, or not having it at all. And of course, I want to argue, and I will be arguing as hard as I can, that this state is far better off with it than without it. I do have copies of that understanding that we entered into last year, for what it's worth. And anybody who's interested...it was passed out to you last year, to everybody, but anybody who's interested in seeing