

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

February 15, 2006 LB 188

that I feel very emotional about, in a way. Senator Brashear has had a hard time with this issue, with the tying in of the Hergert matter to this issue, and how the press has played that, to a certain extent. I think it has caused him a lot tension. I think it's...that he's been misunderstood in many ways, and I have known him for many, many years now, and I know he speaks from his heart. I know he has a philosophy of government. I know he understands what he wants America to be about, and I totally respect him. And I hope he comes out of this Legislature whole and happy and pleased with everything he's gotten done. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, are you finished? Further discussion? Senator Brashear.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Mr. President, members of the body. Mr. President, is mine the last light?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Your light is the last.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: May I close?

SENATOR CUDABACK: You may close, if you wish to.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: I thank you. Senator Beutler, Chris, thank you. I'm not going to comment at...I'm not going to extend it, because emotionally, I will have trouble if I do, but thank you. You're a delightful colleague. I'm proud to have served with you. Thank you all for the opportunity to present this to you in the manner in which we have. You've heard the arguments. I will summarize very briefly. I believe that this law always has been difficult, in...under the First Amendment, in relationship to the free speech which we are guaranteed in this country, as we campaign for office, and the right to go out and to solicit people to support us and to make our system work. I also believe strongly that we are wrong, we are diverting fines and penalties to support this law, that should be, in fact, in the School Fund and would be resulting in the benefit that we have placed in our constitution, that those should go to the children. I also believe that this is an extremely complicated amendment, as you have now seen fit to adopt it, and now we have