

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 542

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. So if these manufacturers and these industries have gotten the state to pay a certain amount for something, those manufacturers and industries have not done anything wrong, have they?

SENATOR BURLING: Probably not.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: It would be up to the state to look after the interests of the state, correct?

SENATOR BURLING: Yeah, the state needs to make sure they're not being gouged.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And so if some of these people have managed to raid the public till by getting from the state more than what would be paid on the open market, why should that be held against the industry or the manufacturer?

SENATOR BURLING: It depends on the degree, the intent, you know, there's several factors have to be considered there but, like I said,...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I'm going...

SENATOR BURLING: ...it doesn't make any difference.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I'm going to make it as straightforward and simple as I can, and I'm not talking now about a manufacturer or an industry, as such, but this is just an analogy. If the state wants somebody to tend the grounds around this Capitol Building and you have a lawn service, out there in the broader world, let's say you get paid by the hour, to keep it simple, you could obtain at a maximum \$25 an hour for the work that you do. The state would pay you \$30 an hour. Would you tell the state, I will accept only \$25 because that's what I would get on the open market, or would you negotiate to get the \$30 if the state would pay you?

SENATOR BURLING: Me personally?