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FLOOR DEBATE

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night sessions. He said they'll end between 6:00 p.m. and 11:59 p.m. Now, not many of you are here from the old days, but some are. When bats used to come into this building and they'd be circling, I would still be going strong. The bats would even get tired and they would leave. My colleagues would be slumped over their chairs, and I would be mocking them. They thought I was too old then, and the later it got, the stronger I got, the more I enjoyed it. I got a rush. I felt inspired, and I'm feeling that coming to me now. Do you think it bothers me that Senator Beutler is going to stand up to me and give me my comeuppance? Certainly not. He has as much right to give me my comeuppance, if he can, as I have to give the Legislature its "takedownance," which I've demonstrated. And there are people who will provoke Senator Beutler and say, yeah, yeah, do what you're doing; but they don't want me to focus on their bill. Yeah, you go fight Ernie. So here he comes, and I welcome the opportunity. He certainly is a worthy opponent. He can think. He has a rationale for what he does. He believes in what he's doing, to a certain extent. And we're just going to see what the end will be here today, and the end will not come soon because I do not want to leave here early this evening. I want you all to stay here with me until 11:59. I don't care if we stay till 12:01, but that's into the following day. And I'm going to wear you all out, and you'll have the opportunity to see if I'm shooting blanks. Look at you, looking tired already. Where are your colleagues? Sacked out somewhere. And they'll be sponging off the lobbyist when we stay here till 10:00 or 11:00 or whatever the time is, but I'd venture to say it will probably come closer to 8:00. You all run out of gas. And the Speaker had to apologize for his schedule because you have so many social functions already set up where you can go sponge off the lobbyists and eat from their troughs, and your first responsibility is to be here. And you're upset with me? You've never heard me say that I cannot be at my post because the lobbyists are putting on some affair and I've got to be there, or some political party is making demands on me. Well, Senator Beutler is placing a demand on me this evening. He didn't put it this way, but what his challenge to me is: Old man, put up or shut up. And...

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING