

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

March 29, 2006 LB 940

is done currently is working. But this is basically outside of the legislative parameters, and I think it's important that the Legislature has some awareness of what's happening, and that's because we are going to reach a time when it's going to involve the state functions. Now members of the state agencies, for example, Chris Peterson from Health and Human Services is a member of this task force, but this merely codifies and puts into statute what is currently being done. It's my understanding that this task force that's currently in force was there before 9-11. And so we've been looking at this for some time. But it does not hurt certainly to have a codification of this. If there are secretive matters or matters of high security, as Senator Erdman is concerned about, I'm certain that that can be handled by the agency itself and by the material that's submitted. But I think that it's important that we have a codification. As it stands right now, unless there's some change taking place between Senator Smith and Senator Schimek, I would encourage the adoption of LB 940 as amended by Senator Schimek, and I would urge that we reject the proposed amendment by Senator Smith. I don't think it adds to government. I think it merely involves the state in matters that the state should be involved in. So I think it's important that we have this codification that is proposed by Senator Schimek, so I would encourage your adoption of that codification. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Pederson. Senator Schimek, on the Smith amendment.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I would like to give Senator Erdman any time for following up. I kind of responded to your question, Senator Erdman, and I don't know if you have any follow up to that or not.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Erdman.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Senator Schimek. And I was listening to your answer and then what Senator Pederson just said. And while I agree that we should have a process, again, we have a responsibility as the lawmaking side of the state, the legislative branch, to set forth policy in the event that we're going to go down a path of codifying what the executive branch