

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

April 10, 2006 LB 554

Senator Beutler has authorized call-in votes. Mr. Clerk, please accept call-in votes on the question to cease debate on FA685. We're voting on ceasing debate. Call-in votes have...

CLERK: Senator Kruse voting yes. Senator Schrock voting yes. Senator Brashear voting yes. Senator Brown voting yes. Senator Baker voting yes. Senator Price voting yes. Senator Foley voting yes. Senator Landis voting yes. Senator Johnson voting yes.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Debate does cease. Senator Smith, you're recognized to close on FA685.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President and members. When we try to sift through all of the information that we're given as policymakers and we...and Mr. President, is the house still under call?

SENATOR CUDABACK: It is.

SENATOR SMITH: When we sift through all of the information and look at the impact of what our votes as policymakers can accomplish, I hope we do that with a critical eye. I think too often in the public policy arena, in society in general, there are embellishments--well, we did this for you, so here are the benefits. But when you look at the details, what did it really accomplish? What did it really accomplish? There are unintended consequences all along the road. I speak from experience. When there are various facets to a bill, sometimes so many facets to a bill, that some of the details get overlooked, but it went into law anyway, and it has an impact, negatively so, outside the spirit of the legislation, and then it's too late to change it, or it takes the burden of 25 votes to undo something that was done prior, but all sorts of things along the way that I think are unintended and they don't have true merit. And when I say true merit, I mean they truly make a positive difference, and this is what concerns me. Would