

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

March 28, 2000

LB 1234

products will sell ethanol products, maybe so. Maybe sweet potato ethanol is better than corn and maybe not. But what they really ought to do in Louisiana is come up with a gumbo where they take rice stalks, sweet potatoes, corn, sorghum, and nobody mentioned peanut shells, but just put it all in there and mix it up. This, if it were done in Russia, would be pointed to by people to say, see there, that's what happens when you don't have capitalism. That's what happens when the government manages the market. That's what happens when the government tries to tell people what they must do, what they must buy, and tells merchants what they must sell. That's what they would say in the old days. But since the evil empire, the Soviet Union has fragmented, something has to take its place. Nature abhors a vacuum. So since the evil empire has left the reaches of Asia, it now finds a very comfortable accommodating home on the plains of Nebraska. Erstwhile conservatives who believe in free enterprise, believe in capitalism, who hate communism, are now coming here saying the government wants to dictate what people can use as consumers and dictate what merchants must sell. The government, not you, not me as individuals, but you all as the government, you all as the government are dictating to your merchants as to what they must offer for sale. And if it doesn't sell...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...shame on the merchant because the government has spoken and the government is right and the same ones who are trying to do it on this junior level are the ones who put up a pitiful mouth about the mandates from the federal government. So I'm just going to enjoy this discussion and I'm going to participate in it. And having been deprived of the opportunity to discuss an issue at length earlier in the day, I will perhaps consider this bill to have been given to me by way of a consolation prize. And I'm going to watch as my colleagues engage in the dictatorial, compulsory mandating merchants as to what they must offer for sale...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...even if there are no buyers.