

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

March 14, 2002 LB 873

hear them. We had a meeting of the Judiciary Committee in Exec Session to do some work, and when I came into my office I heard a voice droning on and on and on and I thought it was the...the religion channel. And I looked up and I recognized some of our employees, so I said, well, this must be one of those long-winded prayers again. So some of these people have probably heard or read where that fellow who painted the soup cans say that everybody is going to get, or is entitled to, 15 minutes of fame. So some of these people who come here are going to take all 15 minutes of their fame in this Chamber. But I'll tell you what delights me--when they pan the Chamber and you see nobody is here; praying to the walls, the ceiling, the floors, the doors, and obviously that's who these people are praying to. And I'm going to read into the record a little rhyme that I wish they'd all pay attention to and those who invite them would pay attention to, because this is not a form for these people to give their political views about America's status, or praying for the President. He's not a member of this Chamber. He can pray for the President at home. These people come here and pray to the camera. Now most of them are Christians, and they say they are, and Jesus told them, your daddy knows what you have need of before you even ask so don't ask those long-winded prayers. You're like the hypocrites who stand on the corner and make these long prayers so that they may be seen and heard of men. That's not what Jesus said, and yet these people are always trying to convert somebody to what they believe in. Since they cannot convert those in the Chambers, and they cannot convert Chambers in to Christian, they're going to convert the Chambers into the Cave of the Winds and they're going to provide the winds. They think that they can make their little prayers immortal by making them everlasting. You--all want to bring these people here and assault my ears with their ramblings? They need to know what the attitude of some people is toward these prayers. And it's why prayers should not be a part of a legislative activity. Church and state should be divided. And if you get offended, keep your church out of this Chamber. Bring your church and your preachers here and I'm going to let you know what I think. I don't believe what you all believe. I'm not superstitious like some of you all are. But if you're going to bring your superstition here, and you're going to bring these updated witch doctors here, then expect to