

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

April 8, 2004

LB 958

going anywhere. They were pretty sure there would not even be a vote on it today. But Senator Foley has the opportunity to force a vote. He can make members on this floor who are running for political office take a position. He can force them to show their hand. I'm running for office unopposed. But even if I were, and when I have been opposed, I have never moderated or changed what it is that I believe. So I'm all in favor of Senator Foley forcing you all to vote cloture, then forcing those who are running for office to vote for a nonsensical bill such as this, knowing it's not going anywhere, and that will show how weak everybody is. You're not weak if you vote against cloture. You'll think you're weak, because you think you're capitulating to me. But you're weak if you give him that vote when you know the bill is going nowhere. And if you give it to him, accept the consequences. I accept the consequences of everything I do. I could have gotten my DNA bill on the list, I believe. It is not highly controversial. It does not really do that much. But we all have to suffer some pain. Not all of us, because some people are going to get their priority bill dealt with, voted on, and moved across the floor. But some of us, we're going to suffer pain. And I was going to suffer pain along with my colleagues, if losing a bill that perhaps could be passed constitutes pain. It takes a lot more than that for me to describe something as painful for me. I'll just come back next year. I will offer the bill again. I do not have as much of myself wrapped up in this stuff that we do on the floor of the Legislature as many of my colleagues. I do have a lot of myself...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...invested in the issues that we address. And when I see issues that would harm poor people, that would harm weak people, that would harm women, that would harm children, that is where I will invest all the time that I need to try to bring about a result that I think is appropriate. This bill in the greater scheme of things means nothing. It's not going anywhere in any case. So you all are the ones who need to do the weighing, not me. I'm not going to lose, no matter what you do. So give Senator Foley his cloture. Give it to him, and see if I'll take the rest of the session, or if I'm