

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Sieck.

SENATOR SIECK: Mr. Chairman, members of the body, I was one of those who co-sponsored bills to get it in the statutes and we lost. If I recall right, the last time we lost was by one vote. It all came about because of the multiholding banks. Some people got angry and they changed their votes and we lost the votes. But it was also, according to the research that was sent to us from above, constitutionally suspect all through those years. So we had to get it in the Constitution and we did. We did try to put it in by a vote of the people through the ballot box from the Legislature. But we also failed there. But the people spoke and they spoke properly. I will support the kill motion because the people spoke. I feel as far as cycle...economic conditions across the State of Nebraska, not talking about family farms but the whole State of Nebraska is going to be benefitted by this because we will keep the small towns. Any time you get a corporation in, a large corporation, you feed out and they buy it from other areas from the wholesale house on down, and the little town does not sell. Who buys from that little town? It is that farmer out there. Who supports Seward, York, Stromsburg, my towns? It is those farmers out there that are supporting that town. There is no way around it. You get these big feedlots, these big hog operations, and you're going to lose a lot of this. I had an interesting conversation this morning with a constituent of mine from Polk County. I don't think he is even a constituent of mine, I think he lives beyond that, but they have a big hog operation up there. They keep people just three years. He said he had a friend that worked five years and he was good. All at once they fired him. Why? Because he had to go on retirement. He would start drawing unemployment. The firm had to pay unemployment tax. Do we want that kind of people to work for the lowly wages they can have? Is that good for our economy? It is not and that is what they bring in. I think we have to be real concerned about this and I just absolutely cannot see, I read what Senator DeCamp put out here, and I really can't see where many of those issues are going to hurt us and many of them can be corrected. Our large feedlot are actually a detriment to us. It's hurting our environment and if we could get more of those cattle feeding out there on the farms, it would be so much better for the environment, so much better for the land. I feel that we need to feed right