

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion on the bill. Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Well, I'd like to have a little bit of explanation about this spayed heifer thing, Mr. Chairman and members. Senator Rod Johnson said that the committee amendments would provide an open spade. But I read on this explanation of the bill, Section 5, amends by adding the uses of the letter "F" on the jaw of spayed heifers. So do we use the F or do we use the spade or does the committee amendment take the F off?

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Would you like me to respond to that, Senator Lamb, or do you want...

SENATOR LAMB: Yes, yes.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Senator...

SENATOR LAMB: Yes, certainly.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Okay. If you want basically the ABCs of the brand law, I have them right in front of me here for you. The F means that the heifer came from a B or C state. B means that it's...Nebraska is an A state and then the other designations indicate that the exporting state has a greater incidence of brucellosis than we do. So, you would use the spade simply to designate that the animal has been neutered surgically. I think I am answering your question. Am I getting at what you are asking?

SENATOR LAMB: Well, except that the...this explanation of the bill I have here says...uses the letter "F" on the jaw of spayed cattle and deletes permission to use S, the letter "S" on the tail head. So I'm wondering on these spayed cattle, do we wind up with an F on the jaw or do we use the open spade or what is the difference?

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Well, I'll ask Senator Johnson to discuss that with you since that is a committee amendment. It is my understanding you would use the spade on the jaw of the spayed heifer. Do you want to comment on that, Senator Johnson?

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Johnson, would you respond?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Yes, Mr. Speaker. All I know is, and I'm not familiar because I don't live in a brand inspection area,