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in the first place. And that's why we got to where we are.

SENATOR JONES: Yes. Well, I agree with your analysis earlier there, telling about, we used to buy a lot of bone meal to make mineral with. Calcium, bone meal, and salt, mix it three ways, makes their mineral. That's no more. We can't use bone meal anymore. So the only thing that's left is the hide that they can really sell from the dead carcasses. But try to compost a cow. How do you handle that? I guess that's my next concern. Like you say, split it. But...

SENATOR DIERKS: Well, I doubt that there will be many cows composted. I think...but the ability is there. At this point, we're limited to 600 pounds, so. And we know that it works. They know that works. This has been done before. But I think it's going to be new to Nebraska. They're going to have to follow it very closely to make sure that it's working. The heat that it generates...when you do this composting, you use a layer of animals and a layer of sawdust, and sprinkle that with some lye or something like that to get things started. And it's amazing how this works. The thing that amazes me most was when they told me how they did it with poultry. Most of the poultry that are used for egg production in this state, they...their life expectancy is, I think, not very long, I mean, less than a year, I think. And they don't even take those birds anyplace to eat them. They just automatically dispose of them. There's not enough meat on them, I guess, to make soup. So all those hens that are raising...that are laying eggs out there are...they end up in a composting pile. And they do thousands of them. And it takes about...I think three or four weeks, someone told me, for that pile just to disintegrate.

SENATOR JONES: Yes, I know. I had the bill, you know, I don't know if you remember, a few years back, for composting pigs, baby pigs. And we didn't get it through at that time. But it would get disintegrated so much that you could just take it out and spread it on the field and never see no bones or anything. And I understand. But they used a layer of straw between each one of them doing it. But I guess I just didn't want any more regulations on how we was going to have to handle...we're not forced to do anything else with them. We can still bury them.