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FLOOR DEBATE

May 1, 2003

LB 754

SENATOR THOMPSON: And that, is that...the question is that the...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR THOMPSON: ...county commissioner...excuse me. I'll put my light on again.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Thompson. Senator McDonald, followed by Senator Erdman, and others.

SENATOR McDONALD: Mr. President, members of the body, I rise in opposition to the amendment. The bill, as it was, was bad enough, but as we put this amendment on I think there are some words in here that do not clarify, maybe, some of the issues that I think maybe were meant to be clarified. In response to Arnie Stuthman's comment about the emotional part of it, and, yes, it is emotional at the county level, I always laugh at them, thinking maybe I'd rather have their job than mine because it pays more, but actually I wouldn't because there is a lot of pressure there, a lot of emotional pressure, and those come from the public hearings. And as I'm understanding, this is not going to take those public hearings away, and at least it better not because that's part of our process because that deals with the health and welfare of the communities and the citizens in it. So those emotional issues are not going to go away. I have heard response from various zoning administrators across the state of Nebraska and many of those are very efficient in their zoning boards. I've heard from Perkins County, Hamilton County, Sherman County, Valley County, Frontier County, Hays County, and Antelope County and a few more, and they're very, very concerned about the process. They feel that their zoning process that they're dealing with now is working and it's working well, and they're not keeping the livestock issues out of the county. Very, very few times do they have to deny a permit, and those permits are not done by emotional issues. Those are basically done by the facts. And so we need to continue to work on this, and I think the biggest issue of all, that's just been brought up recently, is this is more than just an agricultural zoning issue. It appears that this is...if any type of a permit that's