

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

April 13, 2005 LB 673

Louden's property beyond my fence, so my prairie dogs just go around that fence, and they're now on the property of the other person next to me. So that person would say, well, build another fence. So I build a fence that makes a right angle. It goes this direction, then it goes east. It goes north and south, then it goes east. Then I have to do that all the way around my property. But I can't sink it to the core of the earth. So these dogs dig under and go to this other person's property. Then what does the county say? Sink the fence deeper. And I tell them, you're crazy, I'm not going to do anything else. So then they start trying to corral these dogs, and they can't either. So every time they come out,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...they assess a cost to me. And I can't pay it, so it's an assessment against my property. At some point, if I don't pay those assessments, I wonder if the county would ever try to foreclose. Whether the county would or not, I'm not going to let that kind of situation come into being. The best way to avoid that is to let this bill go nowhere, or let it go somewhere with the responsibility on the state or the county to manage these wild animals. Because they belong to the state, not to the property owner. Was that my opening, Mr. President?

SENATOR CUDABACK: That was your second (inaudible), Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You may continue. And it's your third.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: This is the third coming up? Thank you. And I'm not at the point where I have to do any reconsidering yet, because I have plenty of other amendatory opportunities. Mr. President and members of the Legislature, what this amendment does is to boost the maximum amount that a landowner can be fined from \$1,500 to \$15,000. I say, go ahead and stick it to them. That's what you all want to do. But you play around the edges, and you pussyfoot. You don't really mean that you want to do something about this person. If you want to