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FLOOR DEBATE

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auction or the swap meet. It would prohibit...the prohibition would include beef cattle, dairy cattle, calves, swine, bison, sheep sold for wool or food, goats sold for dairy food or fiber, and domesticated cervine animals. The sections following, several of them, insert new definitions for the term of "exotic animal auction," a new term for a "swap meet," and also new terms for the "animal auction swap meet organizer." Then it also incorporates, in the sections to follow, new duties within the number of sections to provide enforcement authorities and the penalties. Discussion in the committee was...originally the introduced bill said the penalties would be a Class II misdemeanor. The committee felt like that that was not severe enough, that people could...would just maybe pay the fine and go on as they were before, so we incorporated into an amendment, which is included in the committee amendments then, that on the first violation it would be a Class II misdemeanor; any subsequent violations would be a Class I misdemeanor. And as I said before, bison was excluded from the definition of "exotic animals" and was included in the list of animals that was prohibited from being sold. Finally, Sections 19 through 21...Sections 19 through 21 incorporate LB 916, and this was also advanced on a separate...separately from the committee without any dissenting votes from the committee. A little back...and this has to do with a Competitive Livestock Marketing (sic) Act that we have in statutes in Nebraska, and it deals with the mandatory price reporting. A little history: in 1999, the Legislature advanced or passed a bill, LB 835, sponsored, I think, by Senator Dierks, forming the Competitive Livestock Marketing (sic) Act, and some of the features included in that, it required the packers to daily report prices paid in both contract and cash markets, and the effective date of the price reporting was to have been February 15 of 2000. It assigned duties to the department to collect price information and pass that on to the public, and to monitor price reporting data for potential violations of price discrimination provisions of the act. Also, the legislation provided \$54,000 to enact the mandatory price reporting. In the meantime, in that same year, I think there was a couple other states also passed a individual state mandatory price reporting act, but the federal government and Congress enacted the Livestock Market Reporting Act in that same year of 1999. The federal act contains expressed