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FLOOR DEBATE

March 2, 2006 LB 584, 856

the veterinarians or who needs to respond to that. So...and it's pretty hard to define when it should be disclosed and when it does not, so that's kind of why the wording is getting there, when "appropriate." And this is the same language that is in the statutes of some other states at this present time. So with that, thank you.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Kremer. Further discussion on AM2564? Seeing none, Senator Fischer, you're recognized to close. Senator Fischer waives closing. The question before the body is, shall AM2564 be adopted? All those in favor vote yea; opposed, nay. Have all voted who wish? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 33 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Fischer's amendment.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: AM2564 is adopted. (Visitors introduced.) Next item, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Mines would offer AM2563. (Legislative Journal pages 853-855.)

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Senator Mines, you're recognized to open on AM2563.

SENATOR MINES: Thank you, Mr. President, colleagues. AM2563 is an addition that was last year approved by the committee, and that was LB 584. The amendment changes provisions relating to inspection of and licensure under the Commercial Dog and Cat Inspection Act (sic). The amendment, as I mentioned, is my bill, LB 584, from last year, heard by the Agriculture Committee and voted out of committee with an 8-0 vote, and the committee did have amendments. For those of you that don't know, there are approximately half a million puppies each year bred in puppy mills or facilities that are typically known for their filthy, overcrowded conditions and the unhealthy animals that they do produce. About 4,000 to 5,000 puppy mills are in operation in the U.S. Most of them are located here in the Midwest, and they house between 75 and 150 breeding animals. Dogs are bred solely for profit, with little concern for their physical health. Most