

March 16, 1982

LB 675

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, do I have five minutes on my own?

SENATOR LAMB: No, we have to go to another speaker because your light didn't come on next.

SENATOR HEFNER: Oh, I thought I punched it as soon as you said, committee amendments. Mr. Chairman, I would like to finish my presentation on this and then maybe we could go to the next speaker.

SENATOR LAMB: Your time is up. Senator Burrows.

SENATOR HEFNER: Thank you.

SENATOR BURROWS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I would oppose the committee amendment. I had supported it in committee when this came before us and it appeared that at the time of the hearing...the public hearing, that everyone was going along with the amendment and the move of the change in the brand area in Knox County. But since the public hearing, some petitions have been circulated on the other side of the amendment and I feel strongly that it would be in the best interest to have a public hearing on such a change in the brand area because I feel the opposition might have brought in nearly as many people to that change in the brand area as what developed on those that wanted the change. I feel the situation has changed considerably since the time of the public hearing when it appeared that it was a totally noncontroversial change in the brand area. It moves in Knox County to the north end of the county the brand area and splits up and changes substantially the brand area. This change will also lose funds for the branding people. Whenever you reduce the brand area, you cost dollars to the whole brand program, and I sincerely believe that it would be wise to remove this amendment or by simply voting against the amendment and then look at the bill as it was originally introduced where there wouldn't be any controversy. I think all of us wanted to give Knox County about what it wanted in brand area law but we certainly I think were misled on the idea that was presented really in the context that was nearly unanimous in support of the change of the brand area line. And I feel that it would be a real mistake to go ahead with such a controversial move and pass that into law flying across the board without going back to another public hearing. When you have a public hearing that looks like it is just sailing smoothly and noncontroversial and then you find out that people...another set of people that never