

important and should be passed. Let's not jeopardize those parts of the bill by trying to put on this other language. Thank you.

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Thank you, Senator Lindsay. We will now go to Senator Schmit.

**SENATOR SCHMIT:** Mr. President and members, I apologize. I was off the floor. I did not hear all of Senator Beutler's explanation. I do know that there is a real deep concern among the livestock producers about the appreciation of value of livestock, and the fact that it is possible to steal an animal weighing only 200 pounds today, although the cattle have increased substantially in value in the last few years, that the animal can very rapidly become another totally different value. I would like to ask Senator Beutler what his particular problem is here because I think I know, but I think also that we are going to find ourselves in a difficult position as livestock producers, if we strictly fall back upon the value because of the disagreements that might occur relative to the value of an animal. How do you propose to handle that, Senator Beutler?

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Senator Beutler, would you respond?

**SENATOR BEUTLER:** Senator Schmit, with regard to the valuation of any particular item, there can always be...there is always room for the discussion as to its value. That is not peculiar to livestock. If we are talking about, let's say purebred dogs in the city, if there is a kennel in the city that raises dogs, you could have some reasonable arguments about what the value of those dogs are, too, when they are stolen, just to keep it to animals. But that particular problem I don't think is peculiar to animals either. There are a whole number of different types of items where you can argue about the value but, of course, as you know, in the end you get back to what someone is willing to pay for it on the open market and a judgment is made in that regard. I don't know of anything in our society, frankly, that has a designated absolute value, even those things that are marked by the manufacturer as a certain price are not necessarily worth that, as you know. And so the question of value is there for any particular type of property, I believe.

**SENATOR SCHMIT:** Senator Wickersham, would you give me your explanation of this amendment, or perhaps Senator Bernard-Stevens, which of you would prefer to answer? Senator