

All those in favor of the committee amend...any closing on the committee amendments, Senator? Closing is waived. The question is the adoption of the committee amendments. All in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record, please.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of committee amendments.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Committee amendments are adopted. Senator Jones, to open on your bill.

SENATOR JONES: Mr. President and members of the body, LB 169 is a bill I introduced to add sheep milk to the Nebraska Pasteurized Milk law. Right now sheep milk is included in the Nebraska Manufacturing Milk Act but if somebody wanted to sell sheep milk, they could not sell it as a Grade A milk without this bill. Right now the largest sheep milking operation in the United States is located near Broken Bow. They sell their product to someone in Minnesota and they use the milk to make products called You Cream instead of ice cream and Yugurt (phonetic) in place of yogurt. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you. Let me recognize some guests here who we have not done so. We have Denise Daubendik, Jennifer Pfingsten and Sara Howieson. They are students from Dana College, guests of Senator Robinson. We also have Sharlene Meyer from Gothenberg who is a guest of Senator Cudaback. If those individuals are here, would you stand and be recognized. Senator Dierks, on...to debate the advancement of the bill.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This bill was one of the most interesting, I think, that we've had since I've been Chair of the Ag Committee. It was quite a revelation to most of us because we aren't accustomed to even the thought of sheep milk for human consumption. It's a valid and viable product. It is used for people with diabetes. They have...it's actually a better type of milk than any other milk available and it's also better for children who have...babies that have allergies to cow's milk or any other kind of milk, even human milk. This product is an excellent thing and, of course, the thing that was interesting to me is the fact that they were only getting two pounds a day from these ewes and they can, with the advent of new genetics, boost that to four pounds and that would have to take place after they receive semen that's been shipped over from Europe but the semen has to go through the process of being