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of contracts. And it's almost doubled, contract farming has almost...contract hog raising has almost doubled in the last two years. Those prices, in general, are not supported. So the frustrating thing to me about not knowing what prices are and what the markets are, as an independent producer, is the fact that we can compete efficiently from a cost production standpoint, generally. But it doesn't make any difference, if you raise them for nothing, then you will not be able to sell, and you'll not have market access. And so the answer then becomes you contract simply to find a place...a way to kill your animals. I think you could learn price protection, probably, on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange or the Chicago Board of Trade, but you can't, if you have no market, you have no market. It doesn't make any difference what the price is. So what Senator Dierks is trying to do is at least get, I think, at the edge of this marketing thing, at least reporting market, so that everyone has access...at least knows what the market is and can hopefully try to find that and negotiate for that, and that it is not a contract supply...

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: One minute.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: ...that's tied up. I get a weekly publication, which just came yesterday, and I forgot to notice the amount. But last week they figure about \$3 is what we're losing in the market today, 2 to 3 dollars, 100 on cattle because of the contract, because of captive supply. And I know Senator Dierks mentioned the numbers, but it's heavily in Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas, probably to a lesser degree now in Nebraska than it had been, but Colorado is heavily captive supply. And if you want names, I will give names, because we know who a lot of them are. But the point is that we're not...we don't have access to markets. And I think we're on a turn in the road, maybe it's already too late, and that's the reason for... I know I'm running out of time, so I'll quit. But I support the committee amendments.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Senator Beutler, followed by Senator Chambers, Senator Bromm, and then Senator Raikes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I just wanted to make a couple of quick remarks. I certainly am also very supportive of the bill. And