

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

March 23, 1999 LB 835

think another year, we'll make more headway. I wanted to tell you, too, that you mentioned...part of your earlier debate, Senator Wehrbein, I realize that one of the big problems we have is violation of antitrust laws. I should tell you that Joel Cline (phonetic), who's an assistant to Janet Reno, is going to be in Minnesota, I believe on April 17th, April 18th is on a Sunday. And he's coming there at the invitation of the four states, Nebraska, South Dakota, Iowa, and Minnesota. I was on one of the letters that invited him to come here to discuss the problems we have with antitrust laws that are not being enforced nationwide. And I think that another year, if they haven't done anything federally, we should be looking at state antitrust laws. And so I'm real enthused about your legislation, and I hope that that can come out through your piece of legislation.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I concur. Thank you.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Senator Brashear.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Mr. Chairman, members of the body, I have kind of discussed this issue, generally, with Senator Dierks off the floor. And I want to represent here, and it's a fact, that I want to be supportive of the objectives of this bill. But it was out of respect of those discussions and wanting to be supportive that I came to the floor and began studying this and reading it. And I...if Senator Dierks would, I'd have some questions.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Senator Dierks, will you yield?

SENATOR DIERKS: Yes, I will.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: And, Senator Dierks, I apologize, if this is something you've explained and I've missed it. But I've been trying to listen and read at the same time. I'll keep my comments general. But I'm specifically directing our attention to Section 4 of the amendment, on page 2. And notwithstanding Senator Chambers saying this was complex but easily understood by everybody here, I find this to be very complex. Section 4 says, "after the effective date of this act it is unlawful for a packer to be engaged in the ownership, keeping or feeding of livestock for the production of livestock or livestock product."