

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

March 24, 1999 LB 835

kind of aware of dynamics when it comes to somebody very powerful using that power against somebody who is weak and vulnerable. And I'm trying to work my way up to that through this assistance from Senator Raikes. Senator Raikes, I'm not going to ask you how much grain must be fed to an animal to get it from infancy to market size. That I will never be an expert on, but these other things you can help on, and I do appreciate the caution that you mentioned. If we were in a situation where we have an ideal world and we start out with a level field, producers on one side, processors and packers on the other, and no obstructions between them so that there can be no hidden agendas, that's one thing. If all the market forces are going to come into play and not be manipulated by anybody, supply and demand, these cycles, and I know it's a global economy now, but even that is not strictly true because even though a company may be headquartered or operate from South America or Europe, if the ones who are running it are Americans, that, to my way of thinking, is an international company in its operation but it's not global in the sense of being a company in another part of the world competing against interests in America. The ones in America, if you would analogize them to an octopus, have just extended their tentacles throughout the globe, but when you trace the tentacle from its tip back to the head where it's attached, the head is located in America. So the question that I would ask of you is this,...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...without going through all that about the iron and steel because I think I've probably milked that for as much as I can. We're not in an ideal world, so would you agree that a bill such as this may, when it becomes law and operates for awhile, will produce circumstances that will let us better know, practically speaking, how to make adjustments?

SENATOR RAIKES: Yes, I would agree, particularly the market reporting aspects, the market information aspects.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I think the time is up.

SENATOR RAIKES: I got it.