

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

March 30, 1999 LB 822

we're actually affecting every livestock operator in this state, eventually. So take a look at what's happening here. So often we pass legislation to help...to try to stop one thing, or to help one thing, we find out that it just expands, it just grows. That is what this amendment and the other proposed amendments would do. Even the bill in its natural form probably will do some of that. Bringing Game and Parks into this bill, they don't belong into this bill. They have...I realize they have some concerns, but they don't belong into this bill. This is a zoning bill, statewide zoning bill with our cold water streams. Game and Parks doesn't belong in here. Chemicals don't belong in this here bill. This amendment again is not something...I don't think this body wants to start down that path, 'cause it's going to affect every operator in this state that's in agriculture if we start down this path. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. Senator Beutler, you're recognized.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, this bill itself does not cover every livestock interest in the state, as we all know; it covers only those that have some relationship to a small number of streams, a dozen small segments of a small number of streams that are classified as class A trout streams. I can't imagine what an infinitesimal, small, infinitesimally small section of our total stream lengths in this state that those stream segments would be, but I would be astounded if it's more than one one-hundredth of one percent of the total length of streams in our state. So to expand from that and to say that this is a bill that affects the whole state seems to me inaccurate at best. The suggestion that the department regularly monitor the class A streams comes from what I perceive to be the intent of the bill, which is to protect these streams. And I attempted to explain to you earlier that there are three people total doing all of the streams in this state, and they only can do it once in five years, and in once in five years they don't nearly cover all the streams of the state, they just have done some sampling in each of the 13 basins. So, as I indicated to you earlier, the trout stream lengths are very small compared to everything that needs to be monitored and is required to be monitored by EPA. That means, frankly, that in the regular course of things, if you were just