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Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I should point out that I am...I am directly involved in the cattle feeding business and I am not pointing that out to indicate any expertise, but rather to suggest that you should...you should regard what I...what I advocate or, in this case, question in that context. And if it seems as though I'm advocating my own interest, I should be called on it, and I would appreciate your doing that. I would like to mention that Senator Chambers apparently had a great career in a...or a great potential as an animal breeder. I'm sorry he wasn't able to pursue that. If I could, I'd like to ask a question of Senator Dierks. Senator Dierks,...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Dierks.

SENATOR RAIKES: ...looking at Section 4, which deals with packer feeding, would it be possible for a retailer to feed cattle?

SENATOR DIERKS: Um...

SENATOR RAIKES: The reason I ask that...

SENATOR DIERKS: I guess you need to define the retailer for me.

SENATOR RAIKES: Well, okay. The reason I ask that is that I think that not only has the packing industry become very concentrated but also has the retailing industry, so you have large players in the retail market. And I was wondering if this would prohibit a retailer from...from having cattle on feed; a retailer, maybe as a restaurant operation or as a retail grocery chain, having cattle on feed and then maybe contracting with a packer to have them slaughtered?

SENATOR DIERKS: That's a violation of Initiative 300 and so...I mean if they're a corporation. Now if it's a partnership or a...a simple partnership or a single ownership, why, they can feed cattle and they can sell their cattle to a packer, but they just can't do it. They've got to do it on open contract.