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I'm not going to back off saying that I think we are pro...absolutely and unequivocally prohibiting something that we don't intend to do, because the result would be absurd. But because we don't reference anything else in our statutes the Supreme Court will assume we knew what we were doing. Do we? I urge the adoption of the amendment. I thank you again, Senator Hartnett.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Brashear. For discussion on the Brashear amendment, Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the Legislature, I, too, believe it's important to have proper language drafted and I'm not following this as close as I should, but I think at some point in time the packers will need to own the livestock for a minimum amount of time before slaughter. I don't want them owning cattle from the time they are placed in the feedlot until the time that they are slaughtered, but at some point in time they have to reach an agreement with a feeder and take ownership of that cattle for the processes...for the purposes of slaughter and processing. I don't know what that time should be and if the...if this language we have is not correct, why, then I appreciate Senator Brashear bringing the issue up. If he would want more time I would grant it, but I don't see him and maybe at a later point in time. But, no, I do not want the packers owning cattle in this state. It is going on. And if it means our cattle on feed numbers are going to drop 5, 10 percent, so be it. But if we go that route, one of these days they're going to own the cows, one of the days they're going to own the...they're going to own the calves, and where do you stop? And I think it should stop with the agreement between the livestock feeder and the packer when they decide on a price, which is in most cases maybe a week, ten days before slaughter. At that point in time, I don't care if the packer owns the livestock, but I don't want them buying 700-pound feeder cattle, placing them in a feedlot, feeding them for 90 or 120 days, and then slaughtering them, because we can't compete with that as individual producers. Because if they lose money feeding cattle they'll make it up on the other end and it gets to be an impossible situation. I'm not going to blame the packer for the price problems we've had the past 12 months, but I do think we have a problem. And we have a tremendous