

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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April 22, 1999 LB 822

SENATOR BROMM: Okay, zoning, Senator Schrock, is generally about land use, is that right?

SENATOR SCHROCK: That is correct.

SENATOR BROMM: And as a state, we've generally left land use to the local zoning authorities. Is that right?

SENATOR SCHROCK: That is correct, but I think what we want to do here is make sure that the livestock regulations be left up to the state, and that the counties not get involved in that.

SENATOR BROMM: Well, what the state has generally done is tried to protect our water and our environment through Title 130 and other regulations. Is that pretty much right?

SENATOR SCHROCK: That is my understanding.

SENATOR BROMM: And this is where I begin, and I...you know that I voted for LB 822 out of committee, and I voted for LB 822 on General File, and where I'm beginning to have some questions, and this crystallizes it very well for me, is whether or not we knowingly and willingly are going into land use regulation on the state level in addition to our efforts to protect the environment. Could you respond to that?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Well, I think LB 822 is breaking new ground there, but I think what we're saying in LB 822 is that there are areas of the state that are environmentally sensitive and we want to protect those areas of the state, and...

SENATOR BROMM: But do...do we have to regulate the land use in order to protect those areas of the state, or do we simply need to have DEQ doing their job through environmental regulations, the proper kinds of waste facilities, as opposed to us making a determination as to where facilities can or should be placed?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Senator Bromm, in LB 822, we are making that distinction, that there are areas of the state that we have concerns about. In the past, we have trusted DEQ to certainly determine whether a livestock facility in a certain area of the state is appropriate or not,...