

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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in them. So this is intended to say that DEQ should judge whether that permit would have the potential to further damage a stream and, therefore, I ask your consideration on this amendment. If you have any questions, I will try to answer, and this amendment I think should be more fair to the existing facilities in those areas. And one thing I would point out to you that most of the livestock facilities, of course, in these protected stream areas are cattle facilities. And we're not seeing a lot of expansion in cattle facilities in this state and, of course, this bill probably would not be here today if it weren't for large hog confinement facilities trying to operate in the areas of the state where there are cold water streams. I hope that explanation is clear enough, and if you have any questions, I will try to answer them.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schrock. We are now open for discussion on the Schrock amendment, AM1395, to LB 822. Senator Bohlke. Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Mr. Speaker and members, excuse me, I just rise in support of this amendment. We had long discussions in committee deciding what type of expansion, we had a number of proposals before the committee and were unable at times to agree on what would be best, what wouldn't be best, trying to work with the industry, trying to still accomplish what we thought was the intent of the bill. In the final analysis, I think it makes great sense to leave that discretion to DEQ, and it could work either way depending on the individual situation. They...I think that an operator could...DEQ would have the authority to be more restrictive than some of the amendments we were proposing, and so I think that we could...they can have the authority to look at those individual situations, decide what is best, and, therefore, I think, rather than us trying to determine what amount each class should be able to expand, that this is far better. Therefore, I support the amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Senator Chris Peterson on the Schrock amendment.

SENATOR C. PETERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the body. Senator Schrock, could I ask you a few questions about