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LB 822, 870

my area that are starting to say, we're not going to...we're not going to participate anymore, and so what is indicated, and I believe it's true, we're going to drive...we're going to drive it to the big operators and the small operator's going to go out of business because he becomes so frustrated with all of the rules, all of the hoops he has to jump through. He gets to the point where he doesn't think it's worth the problems so he just gets out, and so we end up with the very thing we don't want, and that's the mega-farms--the people who can...who have the expertise and the attorneys and all the people on hand to go through all these procedures that are necessary in order to get a permit. And we're requiring basically a double permit--locally and then at the state level. I think we need to step back and take a good hard look at this and make sure that we're not overburdening the people who are trying to make an honest living out there toiling the soil and working with their livestock. So, with that, I'm going to oppose the amendment and support the bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, Senator Dierks, I'm going to respond to your issue about local control. LB 822 was a...is a committee bill, clean water bill for trout streams prioritized by Senator Bohlke. It's a Natural Resources Committee bill. In that bill we allowed interim zoning to be amended onto the bill and I agreed to that, members of the committee agreed to that. And if we adopt this then it's overkill, it's double kill. If the counties don't start zoning by January 1, 2002, then at some point in time I quit feeling sorry for them. But with that in place, do we need to have someone who is going to build a livestock facility have to have the counties and the cities and all other local zoning people with authority to sign off on a permit that they may know nothing about before it's submitted to DEQ? I don't think so. I'll give the rest of my time back to the Chair.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. I, too, rise in opposition of the amendment, I do believe, and many of the reasons have already been stated.