

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

May 5, 1999

LB 870

impacts on the whole state. Certainly, these facilities pay a lot of property taxes and the economic activity that they generate is certainly good for the state. They are the number one consumer of our grain, of our hay, and I cannot envision Nebraska without a vibrant livestock industry. Senator Beutler, I think what you are bringing forward to us this morning is good, but I will oppose it and I ask other people to oppose it. I do find it rather interesting, your schedule, and at some point in time maybe we could discuss that, but I think I will conclude my remarks at this time and give my time back to the Chair.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you, Mr. President. I, too, stand to oppose this amendment. The task force, in all their studies, the task force for LB 1209, did state that they think the fee structure should remain the same and also they recommended that any...that General Funds be used for any additional revenue source for the program. Another thing, I just heard a comment here a short time ago on the other amendment that what we are doing is for the good of all the citizens of the state of Nebraska. And right now, I don't feel really good about having to go through all this process when I think I'm doing a good job in something I've done for many, many years and the cost that it is going to impose upon me, and then to come around and have to pay another fee every year, I think it's not fair. I think the costs that we are going to have to go through to maybe come in compliance or make some changes, if there needs to be some, after some engineering could be as much as 10 to 60 thousand dollars. So we're also already standing a big share of this cost, and then if it is something that benefits all the citizens of the state of Nebraska, I think the logical place for it is to come from the General Fund. So I would oppose the amendment. I think it puts an extra burden on the livestock producer, something that we don't need at this time. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Kremer. Senator Jones, on the Beutler amendment.

SENATOR JONES: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I am going