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LB 870

here if we are going to have a prosperous economy in the state of Nebraska. So I would oppose this amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. Senator Bromm.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. President. The rationale that Senator Beutler brings with this amendment is a difficult rationale, I think, to argue with. It is...it is rational and it is logical as a general concept to have industries, who are...who cause us to bring in some regulation, to help buy into that regulation and help bear some of the cost of that regulation. Senator Wehrbein mentioned the banking industry, and it is...it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, for a small bank to pass on that cost of the audits and of the inspections, if you want to call them that, but they are, basically, audits, and those costs are significant for a small bank. They run many thousands of dollars. You have the state and you have the federal and you sometimes even have a third inspection, the comptroller, and you pay for them. However, and I'm glad that Senator Beutler is holding our feet to the fire with this...with this rationale. However, the timing, as I'm sure he recognizes and knows, of imposing this kind of a fee at this time would send a horrible message to the...to the livestock industry who has experienced and is experiencing, has experienced just almost an unprecedented terrible year, the last twelve months, eighteen months, particularly in the hog industry, but it has not been good for quite sometime in the li...in the cattle industry, and most recently the dairy industry is in trouble. So I would not be able to do this. If they were making all kinds of money, I think they would be in here probably trying to figure out a reasonable schedule to support, but that isn't the case. There are many producers hanging on, trying to hang on, and some of them are not necessarily small. I was going to ask Senator Coordsen what he considered small. He spoke about small earlier. You know, I think a 5,000-head feedlot is small and...but we're talking about 300 here. Three hundred is a hobby. So I...I would encourage the Natural Resources Committee and Senator Beutler and others who are interested to do and continue to look at an interim study with respect to this matter and the matters that relate to this. What's appropriate in terms of how much...how much do we really need for resources? We don't really know