

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

May 5, 1999

LB 870

that. It was a shot in the dark in LB 1209 as to what we needed for inspectors and how many inspections there would be and how much work there would be to do, and that needs to be continually assessed. And if we have more inspectors than we need, we need to cut back. If their emphasis is in the wrong area, we need to change the emphasis, and we need to continue to look at how we're going to pay for it. The population that is directly involved in the livestock industry is not a very large part of the population of the state, and it is necessary that we...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR BROMM: ...continue...that we continue to convince the rest of the population, as many of you are doing and have done, that we are good stewards and that we are good partners, and that we will do our part in the state as we move along in this...in this challenge. And so I certainly do not fault the amendment being presented. I will not support it at this time, but I would support continuing to look at it through an interim study process. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Bromm. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Just quickly, I wanted to point out the remainder of the concept that's contained in the amendment because the concept is not solely to put the fee into the General Fund and to go back into regulation, but 10 percent of the fee, under the terms of the amendment, was to go to a particular fund, what I called, for lack of better terminology, the Livestock Waste Facility Emergency Cash Fund, and that that money, 10 percent, would be used to finance responses to pollution control emergencies that were related to livestock waste control facilities and pollution cleanup problems associated with orphan sites that have no responsible owner. One of the things that we...that we try to provide for in different areas of our life are what are we going to do if there is a major problem someplace and there's nobody there to clean up: bankruptcy, a variety of situations that can exist? And one mechanism that's used is to create a fund that's contributed to by everybody up to a certain level and in this amendment I had suggested a million dollar level, and then once you get to that level don't put any more money into it. But if you ever