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under a public forum and state their opposition. When we passed the interim zoning bill and for those counties that have zoning, I agreed that, all right, there was now the opportunity at, with their county boards to come in and have that input and state what was very important to them, their objections or their support. But there will be counties and that's how my amendment differs from the Preister amendment, there will be counties where there is no zoning or no interim zoning. In that case, the people who live in those counties will not have an opportunity for a public forum to state to DEQ their objections for a large confinement operation. I do not understand why we would ever pass anything that would not allow the public that opportunity. I've said to the lobby, I'm sorry I'm thick-headed on this. I don't understand it. I understand that DEQ, what they've told me the reason is DEQ doesn't want to go out and face people who are upset about this. Well, you all have had hearings here in the Capitol, hearing rooms have been full, you've had people who are upset by bills. Probably you would have rather avoided it maybe. But guess what? That's the right of the people of this state. And if you only allow, if you only allow a public comment, you are cutting off one opportunity for that to take place. Not everyone is comfortable with the written comment. And besides that, as I've said, in a public forum you have some people who come and listen. They may never speak. They may walk away from that supporting the new livestock confinement or in opposition, but they've had the opportunity to hear their neighbors' complaints or the person who wants to build it, their reasons for wanting to and why they think it might be economic development. We don't allow that forum to take place with only written comment. I think that's not a function of government. And Senator Preister's goes further than what I would do because his...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN PRESIDING

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR BOHLKE: ...goes to all counties if they're zoned or not as I understand and he's shaking his head yes. I gave in on that issue thinking that at least then they would have to go before their county board and there would be an avenue for some public comment, not just written. And so I hope that you pay