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Committee, while you have been there, have I been an active member of the committee?

SENATOR DIERKS: Most certainly.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Have there been issues, for example, on the livestock labeling and that package of bills when there was a line of questioning and inquiry that I was able to undertake with the big shots and their high-powered lawyers that was of benefit, not only to the committee, but to the agricultural sector of the state?

SENATOR DIERKS: Absolutely.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Did we have a meeting, other than during the committee, when some of those big shots and their lobbyists wanted to sit down with us, and we did have such a meeting?

SENATOR DIERKS: We did have that meeting.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Was I an active participant in that meeting?

SENATOR DIERKS: You were.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Was my contribution positive?

SENATOR DIERKS: Absolutely.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Members of the Legislature, the reason I went through that small exercise is to let you know that sometimes even not being from a rural area, and certainly not connected to agriculture, there are things that I pick up on that others, who live closer to the situation, may have missed. I am not willing to see the Agriculture Committee put into the Natural Resources Committee. That committee is going to become increasingly dominated by the industrial and the urban interests, and they will shout down the agriculture issues; they won't amount to a hill of beans; they'll be given short shrift, I know it and others know it. And the purpose of the amendment that I've offered and some others that I'm going to consider will be to show the seriousness of what we're dealing with. Contrary to what