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LB 213

hot iron only unless the applicant requests corecording as a freeze brand. Such requests would be honored by the Nebraska Brand Committee unless in the Brand Committee's judgment the brand could be confused with in-herd identification brands which currently may be applied by freeze brand. The Ag Committee, the Nebraska Brand Committee and interested segments of the livestock industry have been struggling with this issue for some time. The committee amendments finally reached a formula which all parties have been able to agree. I should note that the amendments would preserve all other current requirements for recording a brand regardless of whether the applicant chooses to ask the brand to be recorded as a freeze brand mark. Any similar characters would need to be legible when applied and could not duplicate or closely resemble a previously recorded mark. Also I want to point out that the bill would not allow one person to record a mark or symbol as an ownership brand and another person record the same mark as a freeze brand. Only the person who records the original ownership brand, a symbol or mark, would have the option to ask that the mark be corecorded as a freeze brand. The bill as proposed to be amended by the committee amendments also does not require that brands be recorded as a freeze brand. This preserves any advantage livestock owners may find in recording their brand as a hot iron brand only. The committee amendments were approved by resolutions of both the Nebraska Cattlemen and the Nebraska Brand Committee and I would urge the body's support of the amendment and advancement of the bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Dierks. For discussion on the committee amendments, Senator Jones.

SENATOR JONES: On the bill.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Jones waives. Senator Chambers, on the committee amendment to LB 213.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'm a member of the Ag Committee but I still want to ask Senator Dierks a question, if I may.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Dierks.