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Cunningham, followed by Senator Kremer.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members. I rise today in strong support of the livestock industry. And I agree with speakers like Senator Bourne and Senator Baker. We do need to have a viable packinghouse industry in Nebraska. So I do need to stand up in opposition to the committee amendment, FA1206. And I also have a lot of the same concerns Senator Smith was alluding to earlier about value-added agriculture and smaller packing plants. Up in northeast Nebraska, we do have Petersburg Family Quality Pork Processors, which is a group of farmers that have gone together in trying to build a packing plant. And this would exclude them also. So I am against the amendments. But I would tell you that I am 100 percent behind Senator Bromm's amendment, or at least the idea of that amendment. And I would also like to go on record as saying that I...even though I'm supporting the packinghouse industry, I have some major opposition to some of the things they do. And the perception out there in rural Nebraska is that a lot of the packinghouses...and maybe it's just perception...but they don't pay the farmer the price they need to get to make a living. They apply for and receive incentives. They pay a wage that's low enough that many times the employees get on the Medicaid system, or even if they don't get on the Medicaid system themselves, they might not take the insurance for their kids and put their kids on Kids Connection, and they're many times encouraged to do that. And we need to put a stop to those practices. And...but with that, I oppose the committee amendment, but would support Senator Bromm's amendment. And I would turn my time over to Senator Bromm, if he's interested.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Bromm, about two minutes have elapsed.

SPEAKER BROMM: Okay. Thank you very much, Senator Cunningham. I'm sorry, I was engaged in conversation, but I do appreciate the time. Thank you. I think one can still question, as we're engaged in a conversation over here, about the value of the packing industry to the state. And perhaps if you run it through some analysis, it comes out being a cost to the state. However, what I have to believe and what I have to have shown to