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FLOOR DEBATE

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me as being adequately put into the equation is the value of having the ability to add value to our grain, to market that grain through livestock, to have things leaving the state, as someone said yesterday, in neat little boxes, instead of shipping them out of here on the hoof, so to speak. I just got to believe the value of that to our ag sector, not to mention the people that are involved in the trucking, in the processing, in the wholesaling, all of those areas that have, I think, a tremendous economic impact in this state. I cannot believe that we don't need the packing industry. I think we absolutely do. One of the things that's going on with a group of people that I'm familiar with, who are people that feed hogs, and they're still trying to...they're small by most standards, independent producers. They're starting their own slaughterhouse facility. And they are going to market...they're doing it on a limited basis now up at Petersburg...they're going to market that livestock through this cooperative that they have formed, and they're going to keep an interest in...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SPEAKER BROMM: ...the profits of the pork chops all the way to the counter in the grocery store. And to me, that's exactly what we want to encourage and to "incent." And so I do feel strongly. I'd have to be convinced with an awful lot of accurate information that we don't need, that we shouldn't have, or that packinghouses are a negative drain on our economy, when I think of all of the impacts and ramifications. So again, simply rise to support doing something with this along the lines of our amendment, and would ask for your support. Thanks.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bromm. (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion of the Bromm amendment to FA1206 to LB 608. Senator Kremer, followed by 21 others.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members. I'd like to thank Senator Bromm for bringing this amendment, because I could not have supported this portion of LB 608 the way it was. And it was something that's kind of been on my mind for some time, in that it seems like every time we have some bad actors, then those that are good stewards of the resources or