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the environment or whatever might be paying the price. We've got a couple more bills coming up later, one of them having to do with the bankruptcies in the grain elevator business. It's pretty hard to address the bad actors after they've gone bankrupt, or after they've done something. And Senator Bromm mentioned incentives. And I think this is an excellent way to do it. And it's not an incentive that we pay them money to do something right; but it's just to say if you don't do it the way we think you should, then you are going to lose out on some benefits. And I think it's very appropriate. I'd like just to mention a little bit, the packing industry is a very key component in the livestock business. And we talk about boxed beef and packing plants; they're really one and the same today. At one time, it used to be all carcasses, and you'd send a carcass to a grocery store. It was broken down. They had to sell some of the parts that did not...weren't as popular, for a discount price. Now it's all boxed. You...a grocery store, a restaurant, or somebody, can just order exactly what they want. So it's a very integrated business today. And Senator Bromm did mention, which I was going to mention also, that not all of these packing plants are the IBPs, the ConAgras, or whoever it might be. There are many starting to gain some interest, where it's the producer, cooperative ownership. And the one at Petersburg I think Senator Bromm mentioned. I think there's one at Gordon that's starting up. They would be a packing plant that would be very important to our communities and our smaller communities in outstate Nebraska. And if they would have to suffer and not be able to take part in LB 775 money, I think that would be wrong. Even Omaha has a very interesting background of what the packing plants have done for Omaha. At one time, Omaha was very famous for the packing plants there and what it did for the city of Omaha. I'd like to just read a little bit some information I just received from USDA about our position in Nebraska in total red meat production. It says, total red meat production hit a record of 47.3 billion pounds in the US last year. The top states, in order of production totals, were: Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, and Texas. You can see Nebraska was first. Nebraska led the nation with 7.6 billion pounds produced last year. That's from the USDA's records. Beef production also set a new US record. While the reduction in slaughter capacity in Kansas over the last couple of years,