

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 2, 2003

LB 210, 754

that looks like not a farm or ranch operation, but a custom operation using machinery for hire. Now we come to a case. and I can tell you, Senator Beutler, this is a family operation, a father-son operation, nobody else involved in the ownership. For years and years, the only livestock fed were the father's or the son's. And then you hit the kind of times we've had in agriculture, where you have to try to supplement your revenue any way you can to stay above water. What do you do? Do you go out of business? Do you try to supplement your income by telling people, we do a good job; if you don't want to try to feed 100 head of cattle because it's inefficient to...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SPEAKER BROMM: ...own a feed wagon and try to do the most efficient job with 100 head of cattle, if you want to bring them to us and pay us so much a day, we'll feed them for you? Court says, that's no longer a family operation. That's not agriculture, that's not old-time agriculture. I'll tell you something. There is no such thing as old-time agriculture. And we'll get into that more in LB 754. And you can say what you'd like agriculture to be from now till doomsday. But you can't make it that way. You got to deal with realities. This is a giant step, this bill is, towards recognizing that there are different kinds of agricultural operations these days. Now, where you draw the line is certainly subject to debate. But there is no...in my opinion, there is no reasonable disagreement that can be had about whether or not you need to have a definition that is discernible and identifiable. And the court did not draw the line.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bromm. (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion of the Beutler amendment, AM1113, Senator Connealy.

SENATOR CONNEALY: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I'll lay out where I am on this. I'm cosponsor of the bill, and I