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LB 754

discussion on the committee amendments. Seeing no further lights, Senator Kremer, you're recognized to close on the committee amendments.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you, Senator Schimek and members of the body. I want to thank everyone for the good discussion we've had. I think we all are pretty much agreed with the concept. It gets into the details, which is something that we needed a good discussion on. Thank Senator Bromm for bringing the bill, and Senator Burling for prioritizing it. Really there are no major changes as far as zoning recommendations. But we're trying to create a more stable and predictable regulatory environment which a livestock producer can make an investment decision on. Several of the...well really, about all of the committee amendments were in response to what we heard in testimony when we had the hearing on the bill. The factual finding came to us because one county said they did this already, and it sounded like a good idea, because I think I heard that the last five applications that were either denied or permitted went to court. And thinking that if there was some factual findings that were recorded, it would help these, no matter whether it was denied or permitted. And I hope everybody keeps in mind, we're not talking about only permitting the application, but also denying it also at the same time. The part that has to do with the assistance, with information from the university, or from the Department of Agriculture, there are a lot of research going on right now as far as odor control and things like that. I think that the county board could use this information and it would be helpful to them when they look at an application for the special use permit. One county was using a footprint, what they called, showing the prevailing winds coming from a certain direction, and what homeowners would be affected differently than others, some information like that that could be very helpful to the county board. So this was something that was to try to be helpful to the county zoning boards and the county boards in making their decisions. The final determination, I want you to keep in mind again that this does nothing to require the counties to approve a permit. There's nothing in the amendment that requires the counties to forego all the steps, including county planning commission review and hearing in the permit process. And there's the natural