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FLOOR DEBATE

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stating that they have no opposition to the bill as rewritten by the Ag Committee. First, the amendment defines hydrolyzed whole poultry feed products, utilizing the definition provided by the American Association of Feed Control Officials, and makes it clear that the process to be regulated as a rendering process. Second, it would allow rendering to conduct the initial grinding of the poultry carcasses on the farm with mobile grinding units dispatched to the farm, or grinding stations permanently located on the farm. However, any mobile or remote grinding unit would be included in the definition of a rendering establishment. The Department of Ag is given authority to impose regulations governing sanitation, transport, and operation of mobile or remote grinding units to mitigate any concerns the department may have with respect to spread of disease. The department also would have authority to inspect premises where remote or mobile grinding units are utilized. Third, decomposition units would not be allowed to take place on the farm. It is contemplated that this option may be desirable in the future, but additional research on the practicality of this is needed. Fourth, the department would have authority to impose and enforce regulations that require products of this process to undergo heating by boiling, extrusion, or another equivalent method unless the department is convinced that additional heating is not required to render the product suitable for animal feed. This last point is particularly important. While the developers of this process are hopeful that the enzymatic stage will be effective in reducing pathogens, additional work will be needed to show that this is indeed the case. In the meantime, the Department of Ag can require that suitable heating standards be applied during the process...processing to render the product suitable for animal feed. This amendment is important to the commercial egg industry in Nebraska. The industry believes the hydrolyzation process is a promising alternative to traditional rendering options and will offer many, many benefits. The process has the potential to enhance the economies of rural communities using the process. Developers are planning a new animal feed production facility near Wakefield in northeast Nebraska. The business will employ nine people and it will be housed in a 10,000 square foot building. The business plans to sell this product nationally and internationally. And in addition, there's a possibility of other plants in rural