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LB 754

themselves and their families. So it causes them to rise up in opposition to these operations, and to legislation that would circumvent a process that they very reluctantly put into place to deal with them. And they also say that the local zoning authority is granting most of the licenses anyway, that we don't need LB 754 when the vast majority of the applications are being approved now, and when they're going through the local zoning process, and the zoning process at that level is approving them anyway. So what I hear these local folks saying is, we've got a process that we put into place. Give that process the opportunity to work. It is currently working. The vast majority of the permits are still being approved, although some of them are being challenged, because everyone isn't fully accepting of those applications. But people have legitimate concerns about the size of the operations and the effects of the health on them and their families, particularly those people in the immediate close proximity. And they're also concerned about the potential for contamination of the streams and the waterways. We haven't had as many leaks into Nebraska waters and fish kills in Nebraska as they have...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR PREISTER: ...in Iowa and Arkansas and other parts of the country, mainly because we haven't had as many of the operations locate in Nebraska, partly because of Initiative 300, partly because of the local zoning, and partly because of the local opposition. I said when I started that I'm standing speaking for many of those farmers, those producers in rural areas, because they're the ones that have been contacting us. They're the ones that came into the committee in opposition to this legislation. And I think they're opposed because of, they're wanting to have local control, not wanting to have it circumvented, they're concerned about the health effects on their families of these operations, they're concerned about the environmental impact, they're concerned about knowing that water is vital to the rural communities, vital to all of us, and that our water bodies stand to lose...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.