

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

May 5, 2003

LB 754

he's tired of fighting it like he was. It's been good to him but he sees no future. And near as I read into it, it was strictly all crops. It was not livestock at all. So the real question here, and I hesitate to get off into that, but that's what's become the crux of that, is where our...what we see for the future of agriculture in this state. And if we want to go back, try to go back, which I think is impossible, to the way it was from the fifties on through the early nineties, then that's what I think some are trying to do and I don't think we can, as much as I probably would like to myself. So we're using zoning. I don't...looks like to me what we've got proposed here is at least somebody knows ahead of time whether there's going to be a reasonable chance that they...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: ...can locate in the areas that they want to. And if not, tell...just say it up front. That's what I...I'm...can't understand the opposition if all they have to do say up front, we don't want you; or, it isn't going to fit here; we're concerned about this; the siting is not good and we don't want you. And so maybe there will be some other counties in the state that will welcome them because the population is going to be very, very sparse in many counties in the next generation. This generation now is going to be transferring out. They're definitely saying we don't want our young people to come back; there's no opportunity. And I'm not...I would like to think there's some opportunity. I'm not totally pessimistic. But if there's no one going to come back then I don't know what the opportunities are going to be at all, except for huge, large-scale grain operations, and that doesn't make much of a market...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: ...for grain.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Erdman.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, as a young farmer, I rise to discuss this issue,