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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 754

opening on the motion to reconsider. Senator Bromm.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Mr. President. Certainly, if there is more debate that needs to be had on Senator Beutler's suggestion to remove this entire section of the bill, let's have it. We spent a lot of time on that section of the bill on General File and, in response to concerns, it was redrafted. We spent a lot of time on that this morning, and if we need to spend more time that's fine. I think that...I doubt that whatever I do is going to convince some people to vote for this bill. I am convinced of that. There just simply are people who, for good reasons of their own, will not support this bill. But I think...I think we've had a good discussion on the bill. There may be amendments that can improve the bill, and that's fine, but I think that we've had enough discussion on this section of the bill to know how we feel about it. And so I would hope that we could get on with it and get on to any other amendments that are being proposed. I think that the bill, as it stands, is not onerous or it does not step on the toes of people that have particular concerns about local zoning. It does not promote any type of livestock operation. It is still an effort...and the reason this important...this section is important, Senator Beutler, is that unique to some extent the livestock industry, you do have people that wish to delay the decision on livestock permits to the point that the applicant becomes frustrated. And even though it might be a very legitimate application, it's simply they get to the point where they can't wait, can't spend more time and money on it. And that is why this section may be important. And, again, it's also, I think, a reflection of the fact that sometimes these decisions become lightning rods because of various social concerns and policies and personalities, even personalities. And what we're trying to do is a decent process that allows a fairly early indication of whether this is going to be a viable project and whether we should continue our efforts on a given application or whether we should...or whether we should not. And the county board or the zoning board reserves the right to impose any conditions on this application that they want, and I think that's pretty hard to argue with. It's very clear that they have the right to impose any conditions they want. They have a second opportunity to make that applicant come back and