

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

May 16, 2003

LB 754

could be changed if there was a substantial change of what the application was. And it should be that way. It should be if somebody makes a change in the location, in the capacity size, in the buildings, whatever it is, they need to be denied the permit. It was always intended to be that way. I guess I'm frustrated somewhat because many of the e-mails we got stated things in the bill that really were not true. And I would pledge that if this would anyway take away with some local zoning, or take away from the local control, I would do anything I can to bring it back and make it different from that. There are really four different steps that this bill contains now. It talks about a livestock friendly county. And I think it also mentions in one of the amendments we had that if you're not designated as a livestock friendly county, it does not mean you're livestock unfriendly. It just means that some county that wants to make an emphasis out there that they really want to have economic development in their agriculture and provide a means of using feed grains, that they could put an emphasis out there that they really do support livestock. It's not a big issue, and neither has the bill ever been thinking that it was going to make a substantial change in our zoning laws. It really did not, was not the intention to ever do that. The next part that talks about information that the county boards, the county zoning commission committee can gain from the university or from the Department of Agriculture some information that would be helpful in making their decisions to grant or deny. Every time, it talks about grant or deny, so it's not an effort just to grant more permits to be granted. Then the next part was factual findings, and we did find a lot of support in that. Most people felt like there's a lot of intimidation on our county boards, and a lot of pressure to go one way or the other, whichever it is, deny or grant, that if they would write out their factual findings of why they recommended denying or granting, that they would have some substantial evidence of why that is. And then the part now that we're clarifying a little bit, the final determination, or definite decision is really what we're trying to get. I think it improves the bill. And again, I'd say if it does anything to take away with local control, I will do all I can to help get that rectified. I want to thank Senator Bromm, a person that's not really actively involved in agriculture and livestock, that he has seen a real