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SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay.

SENATOR LOUDEN: ...my operation produces cattle, but we don't slaughter them.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Was Congress influenced by the cattle industry to defeat proposals that would keep downer cattle out of the food supply? Was the cattle industry the driving force for that defeat by Congress of a proposal to keep downer cattle out of the food supply?

SENATOR LOUDEN: You mean this last ruling that President Bush put into effect here a while back that downer cattle couldn't be slaughtered? Is that what you're referring to?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No, where the Congress defeated a proposal.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Oh, several years ago?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And very recently. They did it twice.

SENATOR LOUDEN: I don't know what segment of the industry that probably did that. As far as I know, it wasn't on the producer side of the industry. Whether it was on some of the packer side of it or whether it was on the import side of it,...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That's why...

SENATOR LOUDEN: ...all I'm familiar with is what we did in Nebraska.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay.

SENATOR LOUDEN: And the slaughterhouses in Nebraska haven't accepted downer cattle for nearly four years out.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Who supervises that activity, to be sure that no downer cattle make it into slaughterhouses? Who supervises that? Who watches it?

SENATOR LOUDEN: Well, usually it was when you brought the