

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

January 12, 2004 LB 172

cattle in if...that they were owned by someone else. If they didn't walk, they didn't take them. It was a matter of dollar and cents for the packinghouse. They just didn't buy cattle that were down.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, now we're going to move a step further. Senator Louden, is all of the beef that is produced in Nebraska consumed within Nebraska?

SENATOR LOUDEN: Oh, no, I'm sure now we export a lot of it.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Louden, is beef consumed in Nebraska that comes to Nebraska from places outside of Nebraska?

SENATOR LOUDEN: That, I wouldn't know. I'm sure there is. There's a trade...there's interstate trade all over. A lot of the cattle are slaughtered over here in Colorado and I'm sure it all...some of it comes back through Nebraska.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And, Senator Louden, haven't you heard even some cattle producers in Nebraska push for a point of origin label on beef? Haven't you heard of that?

SENATOR LOUDEN: Oh, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, why would those in Nebraska want such a label if the only beef consumed in Nebraska comes from Nebraska? Obviously, it comes from other places. Isn't that true.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Part of it. The point of origin labeling has to do with importing beef from other countries, especially when this Canada BSE deal came across. There was a lot of meat that was coming in from Canada and that was one of the big pushes to get the COOL, as it's country of origin labeling, into the process.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, Senator Louden. If the cattle that came from that Alberta ranch were slaughtered, processed and packed in Nebraska, what would the label say about the origin of those cattle?