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cows go to the special packing plant, and if they walk off, they take them. If they don't, they won't take them. So I think there's a lot of misconception in the...across the country on that. So I just think that we just got to get the word out the right way. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Jones. Senator Price.

SENATOR PRICE: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I yield my time to Senator Chambers.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Price. Senator Chambers, you have almost five minutes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, some people may see no connection between my talking about BSE in this bill. I'm talking about information, the source of information, and I'm drawing a parallel. There are people who don't want these young people to get accurate information, and you cannot trust the cattle industry to bring accurate information about BSE. If the USDA can prohibit the use of downer cattle now, the USDA could have prevented it before. But they chose not to. Not only is there an incubation period in the animals for BSE--and it's caused, they think, by prions, a malformed protein--there is an incubation period in human beings. Somebody could have eaten some infected beef and be carrying around BSE or the variant of Creutzfeldt right now. But Senator Loudon, about 300 people a year die from CJD, what they call the regular CJD. They don't know what causes it. But they say that now they believe there is a mutated gene that can be passed on, and that's how some people get it, a relatively small percentage. Then others get it from improperly sterilized instruments. Instruments that were used to operate on somebody with CJD can transmit CJD to a healthy person, so it's a Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy. It causes the degeneration of the brain. And when they look at the degeneration in the brain, that brain with the holes in it, those plaques, if there is not a careful analysis, the person examining the brain won't know which BSE disease it is. So accepting the notion that there is no BSE in America, most or a good percentage of these CJD cases are never autopsied. Doctors