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FLOOR DEBATE

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Legislature...Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I have in my hand a bracket motion, but I would like the opportunity to speak a little more first, and I would like to afford the body, for those who want to, to also have a chance to speak more. So when the lights are...when everybody who has...wants to speak has spoken, I will turn this bracket motion in. It is to bracket it until February 3, which is a Tuesday. But I wanted to make some parting comments. I appreciate the discussion we had yesterday. I understand the concern about the...this being in the constitution. It seems like most of the agriculture people on the floor were in favor of it; most of the attorneys were opposed to it. So I would like to just give you a little bit of the history of Fred L. Morrison, who was involved in the Minnesota constitutional amendment. He is a graduate of the University of Kansas, has his M.A. degree at Oxford University, M.A. and Ph.D. degree at Princeton, and his juris doctorate degree from the University of Chicago. He has been both a Rhodes scholar and a Fulbright professor. So Fred Morrison, who is an attorney with the law school in Minnesota, doesn't think this is such a bad idea. So not all the attorneys in this world think this is a bad idea. But I do appreciate the attorneys on the floor who discussed this yesterday. I understand your concern. I wonder--and I hesitate to bring this up, because of the gentleman in the chair up there--I wonder how you're going to treat the constitutional amendment that Senator Landis, I believe, has--and correct me if I'm wrong--that puts the State Fair in the constitution, and how we fund the State Fair. Are you going to be as concerned, are you going to be as purist on the constitution then as you were on this? And that's going to be an interesting discussion. One of the concerns I have is the animal rights group, and where they're going to lead us in the future. I have no problem with people like Senator Loudon and Senator Jones and Senator Wehrbein treating their animals humanely. And I know that people don't want to eat at McDonald's unless the meat has been treated humanely. But I keep having this vision of Senator Raikes on his four-wheeler, and his tranquilizer gun, and this animal staggering around his feedlot, and those type of things concern me, and what the public might do to react to things like that. So with that, I want to tell you, I appreciated the discussion yesterday. This isn't the most serious issue we have on the floor this year.