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FLOOR DEBATE

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nominations to the board. So if you fall below the line where you would have 1 nomination, say, at 20 producers, then you can combine with anybody else that's under...with all others under 20 and also the independent producers to nominate somebody to the board. Appointments would result in more equitable representation. The bill outright repeals, like I said before, several sections, and replaces them. We did add the emergency clause so that the changes in the statutes governing the size and composition of the board would be consistent throughout the nominating process. With the E clause, the bill is effective upon Governor's signature. Without the E clause, the bill would become effective in August, and the nominating process would have technically begun for the purposes of appointing members under the old law. So you would have started the process under the old law before this bill was enacted if we did not have the E clause. I did mention the handout and you can see, and under the current law, the projections done in 2010, there will only be five members on the board, and most of them would be from the largest milk cooperative in the state. Under the new bill, there would be eight producers, and those independent producers would have two. They could be...they could be nominated from individual producers. Another portion of the bill mentioned that if there would be a vacancy on the board, that the Department of Agriculture would notify all the individual producers that there's a vacancy. The cooperatives would be required to notify those members in their cooperative that there's a vacancy. So we felt like it represented more across the board, also the big cooperatives, as well as the independent producers. With that, I'd ask your support for LB 836.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Senator Kremer. Chair recognizes Senator Quandahl.

SENATOR QUANDAHL: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, in speaking with some other members on the last two bills, and I am supportive of them, we couldn't help but notice that the last bill dealt with bees and honey, and this particular bill deals with cows and milk. And so I would urge that we do pass these on because that would truly make Nebraska the land of milk and honey.