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FLOOR DEBATE

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hours, and I'd suggest that the people that are against the bill do that, because I don't want to shut off debate. But I would...I think that's fair thing to do at this point. Then that would allow the antis the appropriate forum for the Senator Louden amendment, which is, I think, to dispute the current situation of the fair, its location, its management. We can get to those issues. I have no desire to foreclose that issue. And then I think, we've all been sitting around here for a long time saying, gosh, nothing is moving. And now is our chance to do something, and I wonder if we haven't fallen into a pattern in which we simply don't know anything else to do than to talk things to death. I'd suggest, for those of you who are against this idea, get onto your issue, which is the Louden amendment, which is next. Take a fair amount of time to debate that, and then act. Thank you.

SENATOR ENGEL: Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Louden.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Thank you, Mr. President. And thank you, Senator Landis, for bringing forth this idea. I would like to...I haven't talked yet on the State Fair, but I would like to point out that probably, as time has went on, the State Fair has changed in the way it's operated and the people that attend it anymore. It's moved from a showcase of goods and services that was geared to sell to rural Nebraska and to the nation nowadays. The trade and home show products are gone from the area. Your vendors aren't there like they used to be. Some of the shopping patterns have changed. And I've talked to some of the vendors, and they've mentioned that it got so expensive to have booths out there that that was the reason they moved a lot of their farm products on out. And Grand Island came up with Husker Harvest Days. They've been quite successful with that. At present time, a lot of this farm machinery takes a lot of room to display. The fairgrounds out there doesn't always have that amount of room to display the farm machinery like it is in Husker Harvest Days. So therefore, you'll never get that back. That's gone forever. Your livestock shows, the prestige has been gone from your livestock shows for several years. If you bring livestock down to the State Fair and win something, it isn't much more prestigious than if you won your local county fair. In fact, some county fairs probably would be more