

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

February 16, 2005 LB 150

checkoff dollar. At the present time, out in the western part where we have brand inspectors, the brand inspectors collect the money. And of course, as you noted, they get the 5 percent or whatever it is. I know there's order buyers that, as far as they're concerned, they would like to have the Brand Committee take care of the book work and take care of that. Should there be something entered in there that in areas where there are brand inspectors that they would be the ones that collect the money? It's worked out quite well over the years to do it that way for us. And I'm wondering if something like that could be amended into it on the next round.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: I don't think there's anything that says that they can't. And I think that's kind of the...maybe it should be written in a mandatory, that they have to. But I...right now, they can. And we've already left in there that they can retain that 5 percent, as well as anybody else that collects it. But I think if the Brand Committee, as long as they do collect it, that they would be really the logical one that would collect it if it's an order by, or something like that. So I would hope that that would continue on. And I think that, you know, maybe in the rules and regs they could...I don't think it would be wise, though, to put it in just mandatory, because maybe it wouldn't apply at all time. But it's sure permissible.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Well, does something like that have to be in this statute someplace? Because you are designating livestock dealers, commission companies, and that sort of thing. Should something be designated in there about the Brand Committee?

SENATOR KREMER: Well, I guess I was kind of understanding that they were included in that. But then, we can look at that. And if they're not...because my understanding is that they should be included in that, and that would be part of those that could collect the fees, and that they should be reimbursed. And that was our intention. And I guess if there's some wording that needs to be changed, we're open to that.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.