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FLOOR DEBATE

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after the month of the application. That probably is...was really come about because of the concern of the opt out at the point of sale. That seems to be maybe the biggest concern yet, and we did give that considerable amount of thought. And originally it was the refund would be quarterly. You would still have to apply for your refund monthly, but refunds would not be made quarterly. Senator Schrock even thought it ought to be longer than the month, so we really tried to have a compromise. And I'd like to just read a little bit for the record. In the state of Louisiana, this was in their conference committee, and this...this person, Mr. Felknor, I'm not sure if he was the chair of the committee or what, he said that when the exemption for the...okay, they wanted a...their first bill passed with a point...with the opt out at the point of sale. He said when the exemption form passed, they were told to try it and see how it would work, and they agreed to try it so the bill wouldn't die in the conference committee. And so they didn't want to do it at the point...opt out at the point of sale, but they said, let's try it and be exempt out at the point of sale. And then his testimony is, after two years of this program, they have experienced untold number of forgeries, false statements on the exemption form, so that it's totally impossible to manage the program and get compliance. You can imagine. Now, I don't know whether they were able to opt out the total amount of...I think they had a 50-cent checkoff, or if they were able to opt out any amount or what. We have in this bill that it's a \$1 checkoff, but if you think \$1 is too much, you can ask a refund for 50 cents, you can ask a refund for a quarter, for any or all amount. And I can just imagine a sale barn where there's hundreds of cattle sellers in there that day and everybody comes up and tells them that they want a refund for a different amount, the paperwork that they would have, and it would be...open it up so much for some dishonesty that they could say that everybody opted out; collect the money and how would you...how would you police that? So we felt, after looking at what happened there and it didn't work and so we brought it down to a month so that if somebody made a contribution of \$1, and say it was at the 28th of January, they wouldn't have to wait very long to get their money back. So we've tried to make it so that we're responsive to their concerns, that their money isn't laying there being used by somebody that they don't approve of.