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LR 8

protestors, and actually they're quite entertaining. They do provide an element of humor to various meetings, but I know their intent. I've observed the prairie dog issue and I thank the ranchers across the state for standing up and saying enough is enough, in terms of protecting the "rats," as Senator Schrock very appropriately pointed out. And I appreciate Senator Loudon's efforts on the prairie dog issue this year. I think that too many times we let the bureaucrats intimidate us into various public policies, and especially as it relates to, I think, a very extreme environmental agenda. This is my first session on the Natural Resources Committee and I find it quite interesting, sometimes a bit overwhelming with the various issues that we have to face, but I see some of the very narrow agendas that come in. In fact, one of the most entertaining thing is how folks who generally live in a Lincoln zip code know what's best for the prairie in central Nebraska, in the Sandhills, and how some folks in Lincoln want to dictate the number of prairie dogs on someone else's property, not their property, someone else's property, and I consider that to be an extreme, narrow environmental agenda, and I think that LR 8CA seeks to...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: ...and will very appropriately provide a prevention to the many attacks that are leveled constantly against a very legitimate part of Nebraska, that being fishing, hunting, and trapping. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, first, I want to acknowledge a great friend of mine that Senator Schrock referred to. (Howls) That's the big bad wolf. I assure you all, he has no intent of coming to Nebraska and blowing down the farmers' houses and gobbling them up. I assure Senator Smith that there are not all these radical, extremist environmentalists hiding under beds, waiting to jump out and turn Nebraska into a place where the air is fresh, where the waters are clean, and where the pollution caused by huge feedlots will be done away with. That's not going to happen,