

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

March 29, 2005      LB 150

SENATOR KREMER: Well, the money goes out to where the consumers are, and we benefit from that. As I mentioned that about 2 percent return on your...2 percent of the total sale of the animal is increased because of that and the research that's been done. It's around \$24. So we in Nebraska return about \$24 for every \$1 spent.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Kremer, we know that there are blank, blank-blank, and statistics.

SENATOR KREMER: That's true.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, so let's go to something else. There is a board called the Cattlemen's Beef Board, which is nominated by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. Is that true, the members of that Cattlemen's Beef Board?

SENATOR KREMER: I understand the nominees are appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And if the federal court strikes down the mandatory beef checkoff, that Cattlemen's Beef Board would cease to exist. Isn't that true?

SENATOR KREMER: That's true, unless they would...unless they would declare only a portion of the law being...violating the First Amendment. Because it seems like they have stood up under the...held up the research and the education somewhat, so we really don't know what will happen to that. But I guess, hopefully, they would have another organization that would meet all the requirements in the...and adhere to the problems that the courts decided that we could do it uniformly with all states. And so...but they would be struck down, I'm sure.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Kremer, when I was a younger person and in school, a word they gave us which was Greek was "eureka," meaning, I have found it, or I understand. You just caused a eureka moment. Neither you, nor I, nor anybody else at this point, can say with certitude what the U.S. Supreme Court is going to decide. Would you agree with that?