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March 29, 2005      LB 150

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Senator, are you aware that there are some independent cattle producer groups growing up and that some state groups have left the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, some of the states--California, South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, and Colorado? And Kansas is thinking of setting up their own operation.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And a lot of cattle are produced in these states. Are you aware, I will ask this question, that there are state groups that don't like what the National Cattlemen's Association is doing?

SENATOR KREMER: Yes, I am aware of it.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And that they don't approve?

SENATOR KREMER: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But if you have the mandatory checkoff, getting away from your bill, that money goes right to that national association, doesn't it?

SENATOR KREMER: Not if you ask for a refund your money does not go there.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So under the existing law right now, a person can get a refund. Is that true?

SENATOR KREMER: Are you talking about LB 150?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No. Under the way things are now.

SENATOR KREMER: No, they do not get a refund now,...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Right.

SENATOR KREMER: ...but it doesn't go directly to the NCBA.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But they get a part of that automatically.