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

March 29, 2005 LB 150

back and that's more than I can say for my property tax or my state sales tax or any of that. So, with that, I return the rest of my time to the Chair. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Louden. Senator Combs.

SENATOR COMBS: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the I'm addressing the bracket motion. I've been kind of busy talking to both sides all day today and trying to decide what's the right thing to do. I tend to be a bit of a Senator Chambers talked about communists and libertarian. socialists. Well, I think libertarians, he didn't mention them, but I tend to be that, so I do have somewhat of a philosophical problem with taking people's money in the fashion that we've been discussing. I won't rehash it. However, I also recognize the value of the beef checkoff program and I am afraid that if it was optional that it would go away and die forever. But in addressing the bracket motion, I do want to make it clear I do agree with the bracket. Why? There is a Supreme Court case that is pending right now and a decision that is going to decide whether or not this bill even needs to exist. So why should we waste any more time debating it if that court case is going to be decided? I think May 15 is very reasonable. It's not like you're trying to kill it by putting it up in June, June 3 or something. I mean, that's...it's not a slap in the face like that. It really is an honest bracket that says, we've got plenty of time. The court has time to decide what's going on. We've got time to get the result of that. Then we still have several weeks to get something done, whatever we need to do on So I am in favor of the bracket motion, and I thank the bill. Senator Chambers for bringing it, and I truly hope that he and Senator Kremer can work something out. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Combs. Senator Chambers, you're recognized to close on your bracket motion.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, the first rule of wisdom in the Legislature, as well as other places: First, do no harm. If you accept this bracket motion, everything stays right where it is today, exactly as it is today. Senator Stuthman was asking, what will we know May 15