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

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most of the fines have been addressed...have been tried to be implemented on people who have not been maybe necessarily good actors. And the livestock community, I think, is getting their act together. Sometimes I cringe at some of the fines that may But if you work with DEQ and have some have been levied. patience, I think most of our livestock people are finding out that the response you get from DEQ is, we're from the government and we're here to help you. We don't want to fine you, but we also want you to know that it's no longer appropriate to have discharges of this type of waste into our streams, and so on and so forth. Now, I don't want our state to become anti-livestock. We need to become livestock-friendly. And there is some problem, Senator Stuthman. I don't think this is going to affect that one way or the other. And so I don't think this should be portrayed as an issue that we're going to get tougher on livestock operations. I don't think that's what this bill is all about. It does add another perspective to the Environmental Quality Council. And they don't set policy, but they do help develop the rules and regulations based on the statutes we So taking that into consideration -- and certainly, want our state to become livestock...to be a livestock-friendly state--taking that into consideration, I supported this bill in committee, as did the rest of the committee members. I don't think those of you who are concerned about livestock are going to see that this is going to make any change. I have concerns about some fines that have been levied, and some regulations. But if we don't do that on the state level, the Environmental Protection Agency will come in and do it for us. And so, you know, having said that, we need to urge our livestock producers in this state to get involved, make sure their feedlots, their confined animal facilities do meet specifications, and work with the Department...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHROCK: ...of Environmental Quality. So I hope that helps answers some questions. Remember, the Environmental Quality Council meets four times a year. They take input from the public, and then they help the Department of Environmental Quality develop rules and regulations based on the statutes that we pass.