

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

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SENATOR LOUDEN: I suppose, when you got down to the last part, it would be the state.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, and I agree with you. And this is a principle everywhere and it's why, as you pointed out, people cannot do whatever they want to with animals that happen to be on their property that are wild. Now, this bill is designed to put the cost on the landowner to do something about that which the landowner does not even truly own. Isn't that true?

SENATOR LOUDEN: That the landowner doesn't truly own?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yeah. The landowner doesn't own these wild animals.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Oh, you mean they don't own these wild animals,...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR LOUDEN: ...theoretically? Say that question again. I forgot the first part...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay.

SENATOR LOUDEN: ...when you...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. We've agreed that wild animals are owned by the state. We agree that these prairie dogs are wild animals. If something is to be done about these wild animals owned by the state, the responsibility is the state's to do something about them. Isn't that true? Doesn't that follow from the earlier principles we agreed on?

SENATOR LOUDEN: Okay. Yeah, I'll concede that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Now you're bringing this bill because you think the state does not want to assume the responsibility of footing the cost for dealing with animals that the state owns. True?