

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

April 13, 2005      LB 673

SENATOR LOUDEN: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So if the federal...

SENATOR LOUDEN: I think it says something about state and federal lands in it, doesn't it?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now, if the federal government is included in the definition of "person," and every person can be brought under this bill, if the federal government has land and there are prairie dogs that are encroaching from its land onto some county land, how are you going to make the federal government do this? And how are you going to assess something on the federal government and make them pay? How are you going to do it? The South tried it. You going to take your little county and secede from the United States, or from Nebraska? How you going to do it? That's what I want to know.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Well, I'll tell you how we did it. I went over to the director over at Fort Collins, and in Denver there was a head honcho for the Rocky Mountain National Forest Service, and told him what the problem was. And he has his people in the Ogallala grasslands area as we speak, I presume, because I got a letter a while back that they were proceeding to fence in their areas around there to hold the prairie dogs into the Ogallala National Grasslands.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And how do you know they're staying there, since you told me they set the fence on top of the ground; they don't sink it into the ground?

SENATOR LOUDEN: I suppose they have people in there that are supposed to be educated in this matter, and they figure they can get it done.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: They're like border patrol...

SENATOR LOUDEN: If you want to be silly about it, I'll tell you what they did a few years back. They run around and built little electric fences about three inches off the ground all around that. So there's various ways.