

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

April 13, 2005 LB 673

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Because I'm not sure if Senator Schrock is here. Senator Louden, if the landowner is required to manage these prairie dogs because we pass a law saying that, we could pass a law saying that the landowner owns any wildlife on his or her property. We can do that, can't we?

SENATOR LOUDEN: Well, I think...what is it, when a Legislature is in session...well, I won't finish it. But yeah, I think you can do anything when the Legislature is in session.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So we could give ownership to any deer or other creature on any landowner's property. We can do that, can't we?

SENATOR LOUDEN: I suppose you could.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Haven't you told us, in the process of the discussion, that sometimes the deer population needs to be managed?

SENATOR LOUDEN: True.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, why not let the landowner be responsible for that and decide how he or she will manage the deer population on his or her property? You said, what's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander. What's sauce for the prairie dog is sauce for the deer. Isn't that right?

SENATOR LOUDEN: Okay. You want me to answer that?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Okay. I would probably vote for something like that. I'll tell you why. We're starting fee hunting and that sort of thing. It's getting to be a big business out there in the Pine Ridge area in western Nebraska. And yes, that's beginning to be a problem, because a lot of the people out there are managing those deer so that they are on their lands in that area, by feeding and having habitat for them. And the Game and Parks is beginning to have a problem, my understanding,...