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FLOOR DEBATE

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SENATOR CHAMBERS: So let me ask you, other than the ordinance, wouldn't this be a double whammy on the property owner? If the county is going to go on the land, they can destroy growing crops, and then assess the cost of this management plan to the landowner. Isn't it a double whammy if you add on top of that a fine of \$100 per day for 15 days?

SENATOR LOUDEN: Okay,...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Isn't that excessive?

SENATOR LOUDEN: Well, first of all, this would probably be someone that refuses to do anything about it. So I suppose they're going to have to have some kind of an incentive, and that would be one incentive. If there are people that are unable to do that themselves, then the county will go ahead and do it and send you the bill. That's what happens with our weed control now. We don't have machinery to take care of weeds. We usually have the weed district come down and spray our weeds, and they send us the bill. Simple as that. It isn't anything that's out of the ordinary.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: How many people do you know who would have the understanding of how to construct a prairie dog management program?

SENATOR LOUDEN: I guess I don't know what you're getting at.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you know people who would know how to put together a prairie dog management program, private landowners? Do you know landowners who would know how to do that?

SENATOR LOUDEN: Well, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: (Inaudible)

SENATOR LOUDEN: There are people lived out there with prairie dogs all the time. I mean, they're way more knowledgeable about prairie dogs than I ever hope to be.