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

April 13, 2005 LB 673

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now, we're dealing with adults here. Do you think that a person would be more likely to do what you want that person to do, or refrain from doing what you don't want the person to do, if you threaten that person with a \$15,000 fine, or with a \$1,500 fine? Which threat, if a threat was going to have any impact, would have the most impact, in your opinion?

SENATOR LOUDEN: Well, I'm sure the \$15,000 one, because that would put some people out of business in no time flat, that's for sure.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Bam. You got it. Are you going to support my amendment?

SENATOR LOUDEN: I don't know if I'm that ruthless.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you want action, or not?

SENATOR LOUDEN: Yeah, I think we can get action. But I would like to see something more on a common sense level. I don't think that we need to make this so harsh that people can't afford to live by it if they do have a problem once in a while. And there will be people that have problems various times. And the bill is kind of written in here so that the county or somebody can do this. It's...does about the same thing as...like I say, we get right back down to the ordinances that the city of Omaha used on their rats. It...you do the same thing.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, let's forget Omaha. We're talking about prairie dogs. You are a compassionate man. I am a compassionate man. Neither of us wants to put a burden on a person which he or she cannot bear. Since the county can go on the land, do the work, and assess the cost to the person's property, there is no need for this additional fine that we're discussing, is there?

SENATOR LOUDEN: You mean \$15,000?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Fifteen hundred dollars,...