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FLOOR DEBATE

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this bill that is trying to be a management program out in the western end of the state where these animals have multiplied to their own detriment. You worry about their killing...about killing them. Why aren't you worried about them cannibalizing their young? This is something that, to me, is something that I don't like to see in any species. I think it's "abhorable" that something like this happens, because we...we're around wildlife considerably and always respect something like this. But when they've overproduced, overpopulated to the point they have nothing left to eat, they're starving to death, then there is going to have to be some type of management plan. And if there are too many, then eradication probably will be one of the options. But it is not the first method of managing these prairie dogs. The idea is that if there are people that so desire to have some around, that's fine. You're going to be having some around. My understanding is there's some just outside of Lincoln here that are starting in on the area. If they're not bothering anybody then there's no problem with them. They can be managed. They can probably be...have some type of barrier put around them, and that's what management is all about. But to put into the bill that takes away one of the tools that may be necessary to control wildlife isn't what I would think would be a good idea. When you talk about eradication, right now you've got some wasting disease in the deer population in Nebraska. They go out and here a couple years ago, I think in the area out west there, they went out in the wintertime and shot 100 deer there to check them out for chronic wasting diseases. This was some type, if they would have found them, they would have eradicated them. There was a complete elk herd on an area up there in northwestern Nebraska. They eradicated several hundred head of the animals off of there because some of them had CWD. They were all buried on the landfill up there in that area. So this isn't something that we should legislate a tool...

SENATOR STUHR: One minute.

SENATOR LOUDEN: ...away from someone that could...perhaps is going to need that in the future when you're managing wildlife. This is something that's being done on a regular basis. When Senator Chambers talks about the feral pigs, the idea was with