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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 673

is a program that addresses management of these creatures, these native Nebraska creatures, in that hunting is legal for the species but hunting alone does not harm a population. If anything, the hunting keeps the present towns from expanding, so that landowners do not want to eliminate them entirely. And I'm sure I've made it very clear that I'm very opposed to placing the burden of the cost on the homeowner, on the landowner, and additionally on the counties. And, Mr. President, since you already have quite a collection of time, I would like to grant the remainder of my time to Senator Chambers. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Senator Howard. And I want to thank Senator Schrock for the article he handed out. Across the top it says, "Open season on Wisconsin kitties unlikely." Let me just read the first paragraph for you because I would apply it to Senator Schrock's attempt to put hunting, fishing and trapping into your constitution, your constitution, I emphasize, you-all's constitution. This is a reprint from the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. It appeared in the Omaha World-Herald this morning, Thursday, April 14: Despite the wishes of some residents who voted this week to legalize the shooting of stray cats, Wisconsin felines can rest easy. Both Governor Jim Doyle and Wisconsin's Natural Resources Secretary said Wednesday that they doubt lawmakers will allow kitties to become fair game. Bless you, Governor Doyle. Bless you, Resources Secretary, whoever you might happen to be. I would like to change some of that wording and read it in this fashion: Despite the wishes of some frightened, paranoid people who petition the Legislature, through Senator Schrock, to put hunting, fishing, and trapping into the constitution, Senator Ernie Chambers said that he doubts lawmakers will be allowed to do that and befoul the constitution. You don't give in to everything that a fringe group wants you to do in order that you can cheese up to them and please them. What I'm doing today is just a part of my ongoing struggle to protect the constitution, on the one hand, and to protect those critters that I think should be protected. Senator Loudon was opposed to an amendment I offered which said that eradication would not be an option. Senator Loudon continues to insist that this is not an