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FLOOR DEBATE

April 14, 2005      LB 673

the Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Management Act into the more accurate "Dump the Responsibility of the State of Nebraska onto the Individual Landowner Act." That is one of the key points of opposition that I have to this bill, but the other is that it gives carte blanche to anybody who has these animals on his or her land to do anything he or she chooses. I'd like to ask Senator Louden a question.

SENATOR CUDABACK:      Senator Louden, would you yield to a question?

SENATOR LOUDEN:      Yeah.

SENATOR CHAMBERS:      Senator Louden, would there be anything in your bill, the way it's written, to prohibit a person from injecting steam into these burrows as a means to get rid of these prairie dogs? Could that be used?

SENATOR LOUDEN:      Steam you say?

SENATOR CHAMBERS:      Steam, yes.

SENATOR LOUDEN:      Well, they do gassing, so I suppose if one of the...one of the federal guidelines is that they use...can use gas cartridges a certain time of year, so I suppose whether it's gas or steam, would probably work either way.

SENATOR CHAMBERS:      What about flamethrowers?

SENATOR LOUDEN:      (Laugh)      I would have no idea what methods could be used. I guess it's never been spelled out that far. Usually nobody has ever thought about flamethrowers. I don't know if it's legal to have a flamethrower. Depends on what you're talking about. Then you start getting into the firearm situation.

SENATOR CHAMBERS:      That's all I will ask you. Thank you, Senator Louden. But, members, can't you see what an enterprising landowner could do, especially if you could get...find some way to put a barbecue flavoring into the flame? Then, after you kill the little critters you can just sell them