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FLOOR DEBATE

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could vote on it in the fall of 2006. When it has been on the ballot in other states, it has passed by 80 percent in almost all circumstances. And it has become a very popular thing to do. Do we need to worry about what other people are doing when it comes to hunting and fishing? I have a handout I would ask you to read. And I think it's...I think the most telling one...and just a second, here. I'm one of those people that belongs to everything. I mean, I belong to about five farm organizations, maybe six. I quit counting. I subscribe to all the hunting and fishing magazines. I go to the Pheasants Forever, Ducks Unlimited, and the turkey, wild turkey, National Turkey Federation. I got this magazine the other day. And a lot of people will confirm what's in there. But this handout that you're receiving has come from that. The nation's...and I'm going to read it, because I think it's important not only for you to know, but everybody else in this state to know. The nation's largest anti-hunting group has launched a new legal department to challenge sportsmen in the courts. An animal protection litigation section was created in the wake of recent merger of the Humane Society of the United States and the Funds for Animals. Attorney Jonathan Lovvorn was selected to head the department. The organization intends to add four litigating attorneys by the end of the year. The merger of the two anti-hunting groups formally occurred this past January. The new group will have as much as \$98 million in annual support--that's \$98 million every year--to derail hunting and traditional wildlife management in the United States. After the merger, the organization will continue to be known as the Humane Society of the United States. Its priority will be to do away with hunting and trapping in the United States. Bow hunting is the first form of hunting that the group has vowed to eradicate. The U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance has begun working with bow hunters, organizations, businesses, and publications, to organize bow hunters nationwide to defend their rights. If no one here except me takes this serious, I do. Hunting and fishing are a very valued tradition on...in my family. Monday, my brother shot a turkey. And he will grace their dinner table someday. Soon, I would assume. Wild turkey is very good eating, so...we have hunting seasons almost year-round on one species or another. Fishing year-round, whether ice fishing or whatever, is a very popular sport in this state. And it's a