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

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game hunters, who go around the world and shoot up all kinds of exotic animals. Many times, they are in a setting which could be described as a preserve. The heads and the bodies of these animals are taken to taxidermists, who will do a job of Then these individuals will bring them to a preserving them. place out in western Nebraska--I don't know why so much idiocy is found in that part of the state--to a thing called a museum. These carcasses are donated to that museum, after having been artificially evaluated as having great economic or monetary Those amounts are then deducted from these people's income tax returns as charitable contributions. There is an individual and an outfit -- Senator Schrock may be familiar with them--which advise people how to go about doing this. an individual who will give these evaluations. Then they're instructed in how to claim it as a charitable contribution. This individual in Nebraska has all kinds of carcasses and heads stacked up. I don't remember if it was 20/20 or 60 Minutes, but it was a program of that variety. So they went to this place with a camera, and they documented the presence of all these critters' carcasses. Then they had somebody evaluate what these things are worth. The first thing that happened is that the one who runs the museum said when he tries to dispose of them he only gets a few pennies on the dollar, which demonstrates that they are grossly overvalued, and they are used to avoid and evade paying taxes. The men who go out and do these things will pass the word on that there is a way for you to go on these big game hunts and not have to pay for them, because you can get income tax breaks that will more than absorb the cost of these hunts. When you hear of those kinds of things, it is clear that only the wealthy engage in this kind of activity. Most poor people, most people of ordinary means, are not going to put together enough money to go onto some other continent to kill these animals. If they could get that much money together, they're not going to spend it for that purpose. So once again, the rich and the super rich have found a way to reduce their taxes, even without any help from President Bush. So when you see how these hunters think, and you watch what it is they do, you can begin to understand why sometimes there are problems created in society by the attitudes produced through hunting. One of the most regrettable parts of the Sunday World-Herald is a page that they will have, and invariably there is a youngster