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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 542

very helpful in this study. But at this present time, all my amendment does is just add one person from the healthcare sector. With that, I would just ask for your support of AM1448. Thank you.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Jensen. (Visitors introduced.) Mr. Clerk, you have a motion at the desk?

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, priority motion. Senator Chambers would move to recommit the bill to the Revenue Committee.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, those who make a mess should clean it up. This bill should not have come out of the Revenue Committee, but if it was to come out, it should have been in better shape than it is. Senator Wehrbein said more succinctly what I had been talking about; namely, that the bill is becoming a turf-protecting kind of affair. I have some interests that I want to add to the bill, and one of them was going to be those from the sector who are concerned about the health and well-being of prairie dogs, and I will tell you why. (Laughter) I will tell you why. Cattle destroy far more of the native terrain than prairie dogs. They range wider, they do far more damage, they destroy the environment. And that plays a role in the value of land, the use to which land can be placed, and therefore, it might take some of the pressure off trying to kill off all the black-tailed prairie dogs, and I think they're entitled to representation. But I did not do what former Senator Jones was willing to do, in response to some of my questioning, and that was to put a mule deer on the Game and Parks Commission, so that they would have representation. I would not attempt to put a black-tailed prairie dog on the tax commission, although you might get more sense out of that prairie dog than anybody else, because the prairie dog would be more objective and wouldn't take sides. Now he might kind of gnaw at the subject and get on people's nerves. But this is a bill which ought not to go any further. If this motion is rejected, then we'll just continue plodding along, talking about