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FLOOR DEBATE

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**PRESIDENT SHEEHY:** Thank you, Senator Chambers. We have Senator Louden, followed by Senator Preister and Kopplin. Senator Louden.

**SENATOR LOUDEN:** Thank you, Lieutenant Governor and members of the body. Of course, I support the entire amendment, AM2002, to the underlying bill. And I've always had some misgivings about this two-mile stream deal in a cold water stream, because that was the case where they passed some laws and didn't realize what they were getting into at the time. That law was passed several years ago when they had a problem up in northwest...or northeastern Nebraska someplace, and they thought that was the only cold water stream. And after the law was passed, they found out that there's more cold water streams in western Nebraska than there are in the rest of the state. There's some of these cattle-feeding areas that are next to rivers that get by with it, mostly because they haven't been described as a cold water stream. So I think it's probably legislation that we probably didn't need. I think the Department of Environmental Quality and those people can probably decide whether a feedlot should be there, but nonetheless, I compromised and went along with the way the bill is written. And at least it helps with the university, gets them going to where they can have their feedlot operation going and go on with some of their scientific research. Getting to Senator Chambers' amendment here, as he's described it, too, with the scientific information, and the reason that was in there, if I remember, since I'm on the Natural Resources Committee, there was testimony that came about and there were some people from some of the environmentalist group that didn't trust scientific all the time. They thought they had information that could be given that wasn't necessarily classified as scientific. So, if I remember correctly, that's the reason some of that was left in there at the time, is mostly to pacify those people. But if Senator Chambers wants to change that and put "scientific" in there, why, I'll certainly vote for that part of his amendment and go along with that. So, as near as I can remember, that was the reason that was put in there. I think, for the most part, this is something that we need to go forward with. We can't put too much of a kibosh to the feeding operations in Nebraska. It's one of the major ways of