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LB 856

SENATOR MINES: The only application, Senator, is for facilities that breed animals and right now the main component is inspection. Right now the Department of Ag has one inspector who has literally no authority to enforce the rules, regulations of the department, so they must get a...they must get a law enforcement officer to come to the facility. So this would allow that inspector to enforce the provisions.

SENATOR FOLEY: So am I hearing you correctly? So this would not apply to a private citizen who had a dog and the dog had puppies and...would that place...

SENATOR MINES: That is correct.

SENATOR FOLEY: It would not place any limitations on how quickly they could sell off the puppies or give them away or whatever, or would it?

SENATOR MINES: No, Senator.

SENATOR FOLEY: I see. Thank you, Senator Mines.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Foley. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this looks like a real toy poodle and, as a matter of fact, she is. Her name is Nicole and she was rescued from one of those puppy mills. An attempt had been made for a number of years to breed her. Those attempts being unsuccessful, they were going to kill her. She was rescued by Hearts United for Animals. At the time that Cindy, the lady who works for me, procured her, she did not know how to bark, she did not know how to walk up or down stairs. If you placed her in a certain position, she would sit there as though she were frozen. So I told Cindy that since this little dog had gone through so much, she should not leave her to come down to the Legislature every day. Animals experience what's known as separation anxiety, and I pointed out that while she was at the shelter at least there were other animals and people. So Cindy began to bring her down here. And not just bragging or boasting, and maybe doing a little bit of both, when it comes to infants, animals which have been abused,