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Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

March 22, 2006 LB 990

the opening on FA576. Open for discussion. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I listened carefully to what Senator Chambers was saying because I was having a little difficulty understanding it as I read the amendment. I oppose this and I want to explain why. I know if I understand it, Senator Chambers, and I am going to try to repeat what you're saying. You're saying that if they have to do it because of regulations to get a permit, you don't want them to be qualified for this money. And I want to explain, the problem is with that that a lot of the construction costs, whether it is a hog confinement unit with a deep pit, which is what we're heavily going to now, deep pits, so we totally control the manure...waste, we should be saying...and whether it's a feedlot where actually an expansion of a feedlot is really the modest part of the cost. The overhead, the large costs, are really the waste control facilities. And so let's take a hog unit: In the first place, it's very difficult to distinguish between the foundation walls and the pit walls; they are one and the same. So distinguishing between those two is nearly impossible. The pit walls hold up the frame of the building. The pit walls are also the side walls for the waste control facilities. So they are really one and the same, and to distinguish those between the two is nigh on to impossible, in order to get it a fair break. On the case of a cattle feedlot or probably also with...well, I'll go with the feedlot. Those facilities, you can expand for...you have outside bunk space, you would have fences, you would have waterers, concrete slabs, and all those things. Those costs are somewhat modest compared to what you would have to do to have the waste control facilities. And part of the reason behind the bill...I'll be very open about it...is the fact, because of these large expenses to do the waste control facilities, let's say a 1,000-head feedlot, if you're going to spend \$100,000 to \$200,000, you're easily going to run \$100 to \$200 per head increase, and so...for waste control facilities. And so those are part of the large costs. I can see what Senator Chambers is saying to the extent that he wants...he doesn't...if they are going to get a permit, he doesn't want them to be helped. But the truth of the matter is, these costs are the real part that is onerous, of waste control. And so it's very difficult to not