

in Article...in Section 3, then we won't have the fines. So I'm going to support the Bromm amendment, and then the Matzke amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Dierks. I would like to recognize a guest of the Legislature. Under the south balcony, we have guests of Senator Day, Marlyn and Betty Low from Battle Creek, Nebraska. From Senator Schellpeper district, we have Bill Meyer from Pierce, Nebraska under the south balcony. And we have from Eustis, Senator Elmer's district, Raymond and Virginia Rieker, also under the south balcony. If you'd all stand and be recognized please. On the Bromm amendment to the Matzke amendment, Senator Witek.

SENATOR WITEK: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I just wanted to clear up a comment of Senator Chambers inferring that the packing plants were not aware of or felt strongly about this bill. I have a letter from BeefAmerica, which operates just outside of my district, which is where my husband used to work before...he no longer works there, when the plant shut down, and it says right here that they are opposed to LB 20, and that passage of this bill would have a major negative impact upon the employer and employees of this state. It says that this state, this Legislature has, historically, done much to both attract new businesses as well as promote expansion from existing businesses. Those successful efforts should not be tossed aside by, and it mentions a couple of bills, but LB 20 is one of them, and it would discourage growth and expansion, and they should be overwhelmingly rejected. So I just wanted to clear up any perception on anyone's part that people are not aware of this bill or not concerned about this bill, and BeefAmerica has taken the time to write at least me, I don't know if other senators have received that. And another thing is, if anyone is under the impression that because someone doesn't get to a hearing to necessarily be opposed to a bill, I have found over just these couple of years that I have been here, that that is never an indication of whether a bill has opposition to it, on whether people are not at the hearing or not. Many, many times people are not aware of a bill, especially if one of the earlier bills that come up for a hearing, can't get to a bill quick enough, and only become aware of it through us talking about it on the floor, and as that occurs or as the media picks up on some of these things, then people become aware of it. But even though we think that we are the center of everything that happens here in Nebraska, many people are operating every day without even