

March 7, 1980

LB 915

and about odors and things like that that prevail. Now I am sure that that is the purpose of the bill but I think people ought to recognize that if this thing is passed it is going to make a lawsuit against a feedlot even to bring them in compliance much much more difficult than it is currently and it is not my impression that current law hasn't been interpreted by the courts in Nebraska as excessively harsh on livestock operations.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Merz, your light is on. Do you wish to speak? We are on 915.

SENATOR MERZ: Mr. President, members of the body, just a few words in regard to this. I used to have a Grade A dairy barn and I milked a lot of cows but I never did train one to be a potty trained cow yet and this is where your milk comes from. So really there is no way to cure this whole problem. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Venditte.

SENATOR VENDITTE: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, and Senator Kahle, just in response to a comment that you had made earlier, I am well aware of the fact, Senator Kahle, that there are some things we can do and some things we can't do. One of the things we can do is provide sound and reasonable engineering in providing the best kind of plants that might exist where people live. If it requires chemically treating that feedlot so that it doesn't smell, then I think that is what should be put in the law. Now, Senator Kahle, you know and I know that we cannot stop eliminating waste, human waste. That is an every day natural occurrence. You and I know that we can't stop feeding cattle. That is something, that is ongoing but, Senator Kahle, I think I would be remiss here at this point to think that we can't do anything about some of the inhumane conditions that exist. I have heard a lot of empty rhetoric in this Legislature over the years, a lot of excess rhetoric about what is being done or what could be done but there will be some measures coming relatively soon and if you are really sympathetic and if you are really sincere and really interested in wanting to clean up the environment, your chance is coming and your time is coming and I think then we can really test your interest in wanting to clean up the environment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Haberman, you are the last speaker. The motion... Senator Hoagland, did you want to talk? Well he called the question now. The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? Okay, I see five hands. Shall debate