

could take care of, I think the Secretary of State has built way too much into it because he thinks we are going to have a statewide election. This is just something for Howard County, and maybe Senator Owen Elmer's amendment might be something that might be better for the whole state, I don't know at this time. But he will have to offer that amendment. But right now, all we are saying is that Howard County would be able to come in and vote on their amendment, whether or not...or vote on whether they wanted to join the brand area or not, and it would then be decided. And if a majority approved, they would be made part of the brand area. If the majority of the people that vote are not, then it would not be. I think the reason that the supporters of the bill do not want this amendment because they know that the majority of the cattlemen in Howard County do not want to belong to the brand area, and they are worried that if this amendment passes, they won't be able to actually join. And I have no problem with that. I think the majority should rule, whoever has...in fact, that's the way that we operate, the majority does rule. And so if the majority of the cattlemen want in, they can join. If the majority does not, with this amendment, then they wouldn't have to join. So I think it is a very straightforward amendment. We are not trying to hide anything. All we are trying to say is that let the local people decide if they want to be made part of the brand area. With that, I would close on the amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: You've heard the closing on the amendment by Senator Schellpeper. We will now vote on the amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 4 ayes, 17 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: The amendment fails.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Schellpeper would move to amend. Senator, AM1128.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: I'd like to withdraw that one, please.

SPEAKER BAACK: It is withdrawn.