

will become, or hopefully become an OECD testing site that we have all over the world. Let me premise this issue by going into the history of this issue. Back in 1919, in its infinite wisdom, this Legislature chose to pass the Nebraska tractor law which provided for horsepower and performance claims by manufacturers to be tested and make sure those claims were correct. Under the law today no tractor, of 20 horsepower or more, can legally be sold or advertised in the state until a stock model has been tested by the Nebraska tractor testing facility. Right now Nebraska is the only state in the United States that provides for a tractor testing law. And as I said, the biggest controversy surrounding this issue is the fact that we already have an internationally accepted test known as the OECD test, which does test tractors on an international scale. Nebraska duplicates that, I believe, by doing their own test here at the University of Nebraska. Under this bill you would eliminate that testing...that duplication which was being objected to by the tractor manufacturers of the state and of this nation. Under the bill we would provide that this facility, at the University of Nebraska, would become an international site if we pass this legislation, and of course the Department of Commerce would have to approve it as well. Then the Nebraska lab could join a network of OECD stations in foreign countries, such as Sweden, France, Austria, Italy, Spain and Belgium. Really what it comes down to is that the Nebraska tractor testing site will become north America...will become the only tractor testing facility on the north American continent. You might say, well if the bill doesn't pass, because I know there are some objections to the idea of changing the law, but the manufacturers, tractor manufacturers made it very clear that if we do not pass this to allow that the facility be changed over to the OECD testing requirements, they will take this type of legislation somewhere else and provide for an OECD testing site in another state. So, they came to Nebraska with the attitude that since we have a tractor testing laboratory in existence today, they felt it was sensible and reasonable that we should change this laboratory over to comply with the standards of the OECD test. Under the bill pretty much allows that Nebraska will become the official testing site for OECD on the north American continent. It also provides for temporary sales permits to be granted before the actual test can be taken place. Now it does change the law somewhat in that under the old law if you would begin selling your product and you did not submit your