

May 13, 1987

LB 138
LR 204, 205

204, 205, call for studies. Those will be referred to Reference. (See pages 2266-70 of the Legislative Journal.)

That's all that I have at this time, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Rogers, do you wish to speak on the bill?

SENATOR ROGERS: Mr. President and members, I'm sure that musk thistles probably don't concern a lot of my colleagues in here and I'm sure what comments are made is not going to change the vote on this bill. But I wish some of you would realize how serious that problem was out in some counties. I hate to see the state get out of anything. There is a lot of county attorneys, to begin with, that won't prosecute. I think if we had a little help from the state, maybe some of these rules, laws and regulations could have been enforced. I understand what Senator Johnson was saying also. I think it would be a very small amount of money to spend to solve a large problem when you are talking about agriculture. We spend a lot more dollars on things down here that we don't get near the return that we would on that. And I appreciate what Senator Johnson said, but I just hate to see the state get out of it. In another year or two they probably won't even try to certify the supervisors of our weed control districts back in our counties. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Dierks, please, and then Senator Morehead.

SENATOR DIERKS: Mr. President and members of the body, I would like to address the topic just briefly. My input from back in the district is that the people back there feel that it's pretty necessary that they do have state support in this weed district situation. And I have to kind of make a comment about Senator Rogers' district. I'm familiar a little bit with what is going on over there. He has had one or possibly two people hold the entire county hostage with the musk thistle thing and I think the people on the local level are a little reluctant to...to try the situation themselves and they need some state help, I think, to do that. Senator Johnson, Senator Rod Johnson, would you respond to a question, please?

PRESIDENT: Senator Rod Johnson, please.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Certainly.