

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

April 26, 1999 LR 22

introduced by Senators Coordsen, Schellpeper, and Dierks. It calls for a study to determine the environmental damage, if any, caused from nonpetroleum lubricant use. The resolution was referred to the Natural Resources Committee for public hearing, ultimately readvanced to the floor for legislative consideration. I do have committee amendments pending by Natural Resources to LR 22, Mr. President. (AM0939, Legislative Journal page 1169.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. To open on LR 22, Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I found this resolution at the head of the agenda when I returned to the office this morning. And by the way, thank you for coming out to the dedication, Mr. President. LR 22 is a...represents a question that was raised in the irrigation community in my district, and I think it has application across the state of Nebraska. To lubricate the pump stem and bowls and system of irrigation wells, there's a petroleum-based product that is fed through a metering device and drops into the well to lubricate those. The purpose of this is to lubricate the stem or the pumping system of the well. Currently, in Nebraska, as nearly as survey could tell, between 375,000 and 525,000 gallons of petroleum-based drip oil is used in the systems. The theory behind it, of course, is that that oil, if there is leakage, is pumped out onto the ground, and then the sunshine works its magic with that and it is...doesn't present much, if any, problem for the environment if everything works well. There are several other methods of making a drip oil that would perform the same service and provide absolutely no potential for damage to the environment. One of those is a drip oil made from soybeans which has been developed here at the University of Nebraska. And there's also a drip oil could be developed from corn oil that would provide the same environmentally safe alternative. What LR 22 does then...and it does the same thing with the addition of the committee amendment...is to provide for the appropriation of \$10,000 for a survey to be done in conjunction...done by the University of Nebraska in conjunction with the Nebraska Soybean Board and the Nebraska Corn Development Utilization and Marketing Board for the express purpose of seeing if we can make an environmental improvement by