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LB 322

Commission, and not only do I think it should be done for that Commission, I think it ought to be true of all check-offs, but I think it is better because of control of the funds and I would hope the body would sustain the veto.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Burrows.

SENATOR BURROWS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I would urge the body to override this veto. The original intent of this bill was to have the Department of Agriculture provide information to the newspapers as to the parity, the price structure that would be commensurate with other occupations in the state. What, to publish the impact it would have on the economy of the State of Nebraska. We have the Department of Agriculture and the University furnishing all kinds of information reporting all the time, most of them really insignificant as to the dollar amounts to the state. Yesterday, I believe, I looked at the Lincoln Star and on the front page they had a \$50 million loss because of wheat damage. Fifty million... well that sounds pretty big. Currently this year we are losing about \$4 billion dollars of economic activity because of the pricing and the price structures that are basically laid onto us by actions of the United States Department of Agriculture. It has come through several administrations and our state is an agriculture state. The major thing we can do to correct its economy is have a price structure supported in the U.S. that gives our major commodities a price structure that is fair, that is fair and equitable with other occupations and other businesses, and at least to provide an information program so maybe this body and Senator Beutler and others can realize the important economic impact the State of Nebraska would have if we had a price structure that was commensurate with other occupations and other industries. That is all we are asking for. We got a cooperative effort with the Department of Agriculture where they would not even ask for an A bill by putting out the figures, putting together simple figures that are available to them, but that they have not bothered to release, and I think it is extremely important that this state understand its major industry is agriculture. And as long as it is exploited, we are going to have economic problems and worry about vetoes on A bills. If you took that \$4 billion additional income into the raw material production of this state and put just a five to one multiplier as the various universities have used, it would have provided \$20 billion economic activity for the state. \$20 billion if you took