

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, the committee amendments to LB 36 are basically to provide for the Department of Agriculture to contract with other entities for the testing of swine for pseudorabies. They can contract either with a private laboratory within the state or out of the state or with other state laboratories. It provides for a broadening of the quarantines to include swine that move through concentration points, such as, gathering points, auction markets, et cetera, and provides for the movement of swine through and between quarantined premises, and provides a timetable for follow-up contact by the Bureau of Animal Industry on those areas of quarantine involvement. I just want to say very briefly that this bill has perhaps been the subject of more intensive discussion and debate and a broader exposure to the public than most bills that we have heard before the Ag and Environment Committee, and I will not go into the bill at this time but I think that these committee amendments are vital to the bill and I would move for their adoption, and then I will be happy, of course, to explain them further as I would with the bill.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Vickers, do you want to talk on the amendments? Senator Kahle, you want to talk on the bill? Is there any further discussion? Senator Nichol, do you want to talk on the amendment? The question before the House is the adoption of the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay.

CLERK: Senator Clark voting yes.

SENATOR CLARK: Record the vote.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of the committee amendments, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: Committee amendments are adopted. Senator Schmit, on the bill itself.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I will just briefly outline the reasons why the bill is introduced and then I notice Senator Kahle, who has an interest in the bill, and other Senators here would like to comment on it, and then I will come back later on and fill in where they have left off and also to answer any questions. Pseudorabies is a disease of swine which has been around for many, many years. It also infects other species of livestock, cattle to a lesser extent, dogs and cats can be infected by it, and as we know, the swine industry has taken on a new dimension of importance in