

does raise additional revenue. The next one also affects the Department of Agriculture. This one may be more controversial than some but it does create a maximum fee of three cents a head for livestock sold through the livestock markets, auction markets and livestock dealers and slaughtered at packing plants. Currently there are some fees assessed particularly at the auction market. The bulk of that goes for the veterinarian costs for some of these inspection fees. But we're spending upwards to a million dollars a year, about 82% of that from the general fund and 18% from federal funds, but no cost assessed back to the producer for some of these inspections for disease control. As a livestock raiser it does not seem to me to be inconsistent or improper that a portion of that cost be assessed to the animals being moved through the auction houses or at the slaughter houses and at a level of three cents per head it seems relatively insignificant but based on about an estimate of fifteen million head a year being moved, the amount of funds raised can cover eventually almost half of that cost and it seems to me that is not unreasonable. The one thing I should point out, there is currently nothing done in the way of fees charged at a slaughter plant and this would be establishing something new but it is also my assumption that as a checkoff program is established for livestock, particularly for beef, if legislation is enacted that will permit that and probably will be at some time, that administrative process is going to be set up in any event and, therefore, does not create a problem. In the area of the Department of Health there is a number of smaller fee adjustments and I believe Senator Landis has some amendments he will offer to adjust some of those all of which I think the committee would agree with because they essentially are what we proposed plus some additional ones which will also relieve some of the costs. The next one affecting the Department of Agriculture is relating to the commercial feed and fertilizers. This fee increase does not increase the statutory requirement or permission for a fee but does assume the Department of Agriculture implementing the authority they currently have to increase the fees. This particular one I understand that the advisory committee that works with the Department had recommended last spring an increase comparable to what we are proposing for this year's budget but has not been implemented through the Administrative Procedures Act completely but I am not aware that they are opposed to it. We could not...the bulk of that money is not received by the state until spring and so we could not reduce the general fund as much as the increase in this year's budget but it would work out for subsequent years but I do not believe that one to be controversial. The state fire marshal's is an increase again from ten cents to twenty cents per unit for natural gas line inspections. Again you will see this is one where more revenue would be raised than would be spent this year but again it is to extend the time period so that for when an adjustment may be necessary again. There is an elimina-