

pretty good shape but there are some remaining problems that need to be addressed. I think the body can address those on Select File when the various parties involved in this can negotiate out the remaining problems they might have. With that, I would close my comments, ask the body to adopt the committee amendments and then move the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. You have heard the closing and the question before the body is the adoption of the committee amendments to LB 49. Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, please.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the committee amendments as offered by the Agriculture Committee.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The committee amendments are adopted. To the bill, Senator Dierks, please.

SENATOR DIERKS: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, it shouldn't take very long, I believe, to move this bill. I did want to talk about one of the things that we neglected to speak about when Senator Johnson was talking here a little bit ago about the effect of the biologic...or the chemical controls. There are two other possibilities that might help us a little bit with this weed control situation and that is biological control and then genetic control. And I believe that the state of science of our world today that we will come up with something that will provide us with these controls without having to rely on the poisons and the toxins. So I...but I think that right at this point we need the...we need to control with the herbicides because we're in such a desperate problem out there with the spurge situation especially that we just can't wait any longer, we have to do this. Two reasons I think that this bill will work where the legislation we had prior to this bill did not work. One is the funding mechanism. We're providing funding from some of the herbicide people with a match from General Fund. The second reason is due to the enforcement we built into this legislation, under LB 49 the department no longer takes over the spraying and digging and other methods of weed control but rather instructs the county as to needs for this compliance and then it also instructs them that if failure to comply goes on, then they can take legal action through the Attorney General. We feel like this is a much better enforcement procedure and should make the bill enforceable and a good working bill, where the last legislation we had was not.