

interested in plants, they came to realize that there was such a diversity between the west and the eastern part of the state that how can we do this so that people will know what these plants are like in their natural setting. The statewide arboretum was conceived and the small arboretums are throughout the state. And as you go out to Chadron you'll find arboretum, you will find one at Scottsbluff, Gering. Now the same concept, I'm getting to you, the same concept, there, those historical items that they're talking about, those paleontological items are there. And the interesting thing about the topography of western Nebraska, it is often standing out there, naked for you to view. As those bluffs go up you see the various geologic formations, you see time measured in millions of years. If there is a museum in that area, where hundreds of thousands of people actually come through, where she speaks of that being next to Ft. Robinson where we have many of our own citizens...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR WEIHING: ...going, then we have the opportunity to really relate the total of that region as to the time of the past, on up to the present, inclusive of the Native American, and Ft. Robinson was a world renowned cavalry post, the cavalry post of the nation. So there is such a vast reservoir of information that can be placed there and made into one of the most unusual and...museums, not only in the State of Nebraska, but within the United States and the world.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Dierks, please, followed by Senator Warner.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I, too, rise in opposition to the striking motion and in support of the Trailside Museum. I think that it's well known that Nebraska now is, across the state, a treasure for fossils. We have, for instance, up at Ashfall, near Royal, Nebraska, a dig that is going on up there. They are uncovering fossils that have been buried for 10 million years, somewhat of a phenomenon. I think that this is classed as a world class find, which are some of these out there in the northwestern part of the state. We'll be attracting people to this state from all over the world to partake of the information available at these digs. This will go on for countless years, it's going to go on forever. It's necessary, I think, that we add this Trailside Museum to the network of facilities available for these people to observe