

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The Chair recognizes Senator Nelson, followed by Senator Elmer. Senator Nelson.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I will listen intently of some more of the discussion today. I am very well aware of the fact that Nebraska is the only state that doesn't belong to FIFRA. Incidentally, Senator Schmit's words a few minutes ago, very interesting. But anyhow, I have been working for approximately 16 months, 18 months, with DEC, the land quality division and so on. In Nebraska we really have no rules and regulations, that is to disposal of herbicide pesticide containers, loading out of fertilizer and so on. Eventually there probably will be a big spill or down into the water quality and then it becomes the liability and for who, who is liable? I thought that I would have to bring a bill in this year that would have addressed that and I've worked very closely with the chemical companies, with the co-ops, with the applicators, with the manufacturers of equipment and to develop some guidelines. Hopefully we can be able to maybe regulate and be able to form some policies. The policies have been formed and it will be voted on, I think, by the DEC and the land quality divisions in February of 16th of this year and because of timing, but I will tell you that eventually we will have to provide some probably very stringent rules and regulations in regards to the handling and the disposal of these chemicals. If we don't, someone else will do it for us. At this point I will listen very intently. Basically I have been a supporter of FIFRA and I do feel that Nebraska would benefit and for some reason or another, we are the only state that does not belong and that kind of tells you that the program is not all that bad, but I will listen. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The member from the 38th District, Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. President and members. As a member of the Agriculture Committee and its vice chair, we listened to this bill last year. It probably isn't fresh in all our memories. The committee amendments that are being proposed are just fairly technical cleanups, and it really doesn't matter much whether they're adopted or not. But the bill itself creates another bureaucracy within the state. The price tag the first year is nearly \$600,000. Our revenues are declining. The bill requires record keeping, requires training, requires label