

when those pigs are tested, blood tested later on, we can determine whether they have...if they have an increased titer to this disease, we can determine if it's due to an actual infection or if it's due to the vaccine that they have been given. This is not possible when your further...your first pseudorabies legislation was brought here. We do know that we can eradicate this disease from Nebraska and we need to have this legislation in place to do that. There is, of course, some money attached to this and, as far as I'm concerned, this is one of the most single important things we're faced with in Nebraska today as far as disease is concerned among our livestock. There is my feeling, of course, that this is a great agricultural state and this is one of the great agricultural commodities that we produce here. I think it's absolutely essential that we proceed along the way toward eradication of this disease. I just would also be available for any questions that anybody would have. I think that it's necessary that we get this legislation in force and this is the right piece of legislation to do it with. Thank you.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Thank you, Senator. Senator Wehrbein, please.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. President, and members, I also support this legislation. I will speak relatively briefly on it unless there are questions too. But suffice it to say, there are several scenarios that have been developed in the progress of this...in the process of developing this program and this was felt to be most economically viable. And realistically we have to acknowledge that there are some costs in this but the hog industry is a big industry in Nebraska. It affects our feeder pig industry also because we do ship quite a few feeder pigs. But probably more importantly it is very hard on our present breeding stock producers by not having a program in Nebraska. We ship breeding stock to every state in the union, to my knowledge, as well as many, many, many countries worldwide. And pseudorabies is a disease that does impact heavily on our breeding stock industry, probably the most heavily. It is not...does not have quite the impact on the finishing phase of hog production but it does on the breeding herd, not only for the farrow to finisher but also more importantly on the breeding stock producer and even on to quite a degree on the feeder pig producer. So we have a lot of details on the costs of this program, the analysis of it, but I would simply state that because of the importance of the hog industry I think it's