March 14, 1990 LB 1031

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR COORDSEN: I think that we should reconsider the vote that we took Monday, take another opportunity to discuss this matter on the floor and then, at the conclusion of that, vote it up or down for the final time this session. But, regardless of what happens, the need will not go away. It will be back at another time. I think that it would serve the future of Nebraska best to do this at this time. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion? Senator Lamb, followed by Senators Moore and Hefner.

SENATOR LAMB: Yes, Mr. President and members, I want to call your attention to some amendments to this bill that we have passed in recent days, amendments that have added considerable money to what you might call people programs, considerable money which has gone to people programs, and that's good, for the most part it's good. I'm glad we can do that. But you have to remember where this money primarily is generated, primarily from the number one industry in the state and that's agriculture. And so if we're going to keep this factory going, we have got to have research to support it. We have to have research to support agriculture so that we can be competitive not only in the United States but on a world market. I heard an interesting speech last Friday at the ag conference, the Governor's ag conference out at Kearney, and Clayton Yeutter, Secretary Yeutter was the speaker, the luncheon speaker. And he mentioned, he mentioned that worldwide he's convinced that for agriculture subsidies are going to decrease. That's... they're too high. They're going to decrease worldwide. And one question was generated and it happened to be from a young neighbor of mine who is a very sharp young man. He said if this scenario comes about that you describe, will the United States be able to compete? And Secretary Yeutter's answer was, yes, if we keep our research factory going. If we are willing to provide the money to provide for research so that we can have technology which is at least as good as the rest of the world and preferably better, we can compete, but it's essential that we keep research going to accomplish this purpose. And so I would just remind you that we need to do it in this primarily agricultural state, that it's essential to keep our number one industry going and let the money flow where it will, but that's primarily where it's generated. We need this greenhouse money, 900,000, much less than has been added to the budget bill for