

bidding, I think they accept that to a degree, I accept that to a degree. But what I don't accept is the fact that a state subsidy here then will help another group to purchase this for a purpose that I don't think that this particular land is really appropriate. Railroads, if you know, were designed to...or are engineered for various reasons, usually they follow the low ground, along high rivers, creeks or otherwise, or they kept to the high ground. In this case, this was engineered on the high ground. So it does cut across prime farmland in this case, and it does run along high ground, particularly from Elmwood into Lincoln. So I don't really see that this is an appropriate spot for a trail. There are appropriate spots for trails, and I don't deny that. I'm just simply saying this is not one. For the approximate costs that's involved in this, 275 sounds like 275, 275,000, it approximates a little under...it's under \$1,000 an acre. I'd submit that there could be other ground purchased, probably less than this, that would be much more scenic, much more appropriate for this purpose than simply having to add another half section of ground to the already present 28,000 acres that I have already told you about. In our particular area there are a lot of public lands, maybe not enough to suit everybody's purpose, but there are. Mahoney State Park, the Platte River State Park are just two that I can name. So I simply really can't see why it's necessary to take state money to subsidize a trail like this. If they want to go out, purchase this ground, use it for that purpose, in an appropriate spot, I have no problem with that. So I'm not necessarily against recreational trails per se. I'm just saying that this is not appropriate use, it's not an appropriate spot. Just because it's abandoned railroad land, for its original purpose, which is railroads, shouldn't automatically make the quantum jump, in my opinion, to become a trail. And so, with that, I would urge the indefinite postponement of this bill.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. We are on the motion to indefinitely postpone. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this bill ultimately is not about one trail, it's about a whole attitude, it's about a whole attitude towards recreation, towards how people should live, towards what are healthy kinds of...forms of recreation, towards about what we're going to do to encourage healthy forms of recreation, what we're going to do to encourage family forms of recreation. What is our view going to be in terms of a limited or a broad view of recreation? This