

statewide comprehensive protection. I think Senator Coordsen passed out a handout that showed the economic loss that we have encountered in this state last year to coyotes alone. And, as I said, this is more than a coyote bill. This is more than a rabid skunk bill. This is more than birds populating downtown Lincoln. It's...it really covers a wide gambit of predatorial problems that arise around the state and cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to producers, homeowners, business owners, airport authorities, golf courses,...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: ...a wide variety of entities and personnel that are affected by predatory problems to their property. I think \$100,000 that I'm asking for here is not an excessive amount of money; hopefully, would be efficiently used to provide for a statewide comprehensive program. I think Senator Warner said this should not be considered at this time, it should be...it's very late in the process. This is not a new amendment that I'm bringing to you. I have brought it to you every year and many of you have agreed with me the program is necessary. Certainly, I could wait till LB 142 comes up but I would rather have the bill...have this amendment adopted into the trailer bill here today so that we're assured at least that we can get it to the Governor's desk and, obviously, he can make his own mind up whether he thinks the program is necessary. I would ask for your support of both the reconsideration motion and then the vote on the amendment itself.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Johnson. Before we proceed with further debate, I would like to direct your attention to the south balcony. Special guests today of Senator Robak are 40 sixth graders from St. Isadore School in Columbus and their teachers. Would you please rise and be recognized. Welcome to the Chambers. Thank you. I will now recognize Senator Hefner, followed by Senator Morrissey. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Madam President and members of the body, I rise to support the reconsideration motion and I thank Senator Will for offering this for us. I have been a strong supporter of this program for many years. I hated to see it cut a few years ago. But during the farm recession and the state being in a recession, we just didn't have enough dollars to go around and so this program was one of those that were cut. But my...in my legislative district I know it was used a lot and some of the