

would be able to yield to a question. I just...I just was wondering, Senator Johnson, after a conversation yesterday with the Research and Development Authority, has anybody contemplated using some of these predators for pet food and the possibility of starting up a business that might...you don't have to answer that question. It seems as though we might have some other opportunities here. We're always must look for economic development where opportunity exists. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Question.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Okay, the question has been called. I see sufficient seconds. All those in favor of ceasing debate please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: We have ceased debate. Senator Johnson for closing.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam President. My closing will be brief. It's been an ironic twist of fate that has afflicted this issue in that in '85 we cut the program primarily because of revenue shortfalls. Through the late eighties we saw the economic rebound in our state, revenue collections were good but yet there was always on Final Reading or actually after veto, item line vetoes, the program was cut out of the budget and we were always told, well, this is not the year to do it because we...we're just all out of money. And it's my opinion, at least, that as has been reiterated over and over on this floor that there is an economic good served by the program to our state's largest industry, agriculture, but it also carries over into the private sector in other economic areas of our state.

PRESIDENT MOUL: (Gavel.)

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Madam President, thank you. It is my opinion, at least, that the program has a useful purpose and can provide a statewide good if it is applied on a comprehensive approach for the whole state and I think the amount asked for in this amendment is an efficient use, hopefully, of state dollars.