

trails in other sections or what the Appropriations Committee has done to trails in other sections of this bill, I would think that on this particular item where we actually have the trail and is in development and it's being done at a bargain compared to what was originally represented to you. I'm hoping that you will hold on and at least give them this much money to work with. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I won't pursue it any more. I agree with what Senator Beutler said. I simply would say it is...it amounts to 6,000 acres and so it is quite significant. We're going to have enough money to at least do the minimum maintenance on it, keep the weeds mowed to what we would expect, that type of thing. It seems like we need more than the 10 or 15 thousand, and so, or 15...is that your motion, 15? Fifteen. And that's the reason that the Appropriations Committee did put in the 75 each year so that at least it would be minimally to adequately maintained.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Any further discussion on the Vrtiska amendment? Seeing none, Senator Vrtiska, would you like to close on your amendment?

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Yes, a couple of words I want to close with and that is the discussion here today, as many of you know, has been on how we can cut expenses at the state level if we're going to expect the people at the local level to cut expenses, and certainly we're going to do that. I have to tell you, from my county, we cut expenses because we didn't have any choice and that may be what will happen with state government if we continue down the road we are. In our county, we had to lay off some people who were operating on the bridge crew for the county and some people out of the courthouse and we did that because we didn't have any choice. When you run out of money you have to do with what you've got. This is not a big amount of money and I'm not going to stand here and make a big issue out of it but I'm just telling you that one of my displeasures about this was that when I was basically told that it wouldn't cost as much money as it did and if, you know, if there's funds that can be available through the private sector and they're willing to maintain these, that's fine and dandy. But my real...my real displeasure with the whole operation is when they suggested that we close