

maybe there's a problem there that animal damage control could take care of. I know a lot of cities are having trouble with crows. If you talk to Senator Kristensen, Kearney has seemed to become the crow capital; Holdrege used to have that distinction. And unless you had 300 crows roost in a tree, you don't realize what kind of a mess it can make. And so I understand your desire to cut the budget. I appreciate that. I would just ask for you to have some consideration on this program. We're not talking about a lot of money. I think it can be beneficial to urban areas as well as rural areas. And most of the people aren't asking for someone to come in and take care of their problem. Most of us are just asking for a little expertise as to what can be done. And if we don't have these people to turn to, then we're going to turn to the Game and Parks people, their game wardens, find out what we can do with some of these critters. But it does become a problem and I would ask that we leave the \$100,000 in.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Preister.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Honorable President, friends all, I rise in support of Senator Beutler's amendment. That should not really come as a lot of surprise to anyone. I do so for primarily financial reasons. I think most of you also received the same information that I did back in February from a group at UNO and it lists in there the 1992 figures for finances for the animal damage control. It lists \$35 million of federal dollars and \$15 million of state dollars across the country for approximately a total of \$50 million that was given to animal damage control in the United States. According to those same figures, and I have not verified these, but I assume they...they say that they came from animal damage control figures but only slightly more than 2 million actual animals were exterminated for the cost of \$50 million. I would think that \$50 million, to only exterminate slightly over 2 million animals, is a rather expensive way to get rid of these animals, probably far more expensive than I think is cost effective, and perhaps should be looked at. I would venture to say that, at least in Douglas County, we have a health department that deals with rodent control and pigeons and many of the other animals that are problems in the cities. I would think that there perhaps would be similar county health organizations in other cities and other areas that could assist. I think also that the County Extension Offices, although they may not have a specific officer dealing with predator control, could certainly also and likely would