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April 22, 1999 LB 835

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD PRESIDING

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Dierks. The question is the adoption of the Dierks amendment to the Wehrbein amendment to LB 835. Those in favor vote aye, those opposed nay. Please record.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 31 ayes, 0 nays on the adoption of the Dierks amendment to the Wehrbein amendment.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The amendment is agreed to. For further discussion on the Wehrbein amendment to LB 835, Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. President, members of the body. I'll be brief. I don't know whether there's going to be other discussion on this; I think we've actually had enough. I hope everyone is clear. I think this gets us to where we want to do not quite as fast as we were, but as rapidly as need be. I think there's going to be some action at the federal level. This continues to keep that pressure on. And I think what we have still makes it workable at the state level. So what we are trying to avoid is duplicate effort, in other words, the feds have...if they kick in, we will not need much of the apparatus at the state level. I will be honest, there is a little problem with the cash flow. And I think, between administration and us, they can...the Department of Agriculture will be able to cash flow this so that they can get up and running for the dissemination of the information, not the collection but the dissemination. There is a little bit of a cash flow squeeze. There is a request for \$57,000, which I'm inclined to resist, and I will not be offering that at this point. I simply tell you to be straightforward if, in fact, when we get to Final Reading we see we are going to have a serious cash flow problem, I may raise that issue. But at this point I think that that can be absorbed temporarily until the cash fund comes up, then to reimburse the General Fund, all of this within the Department of Agriculture. Otherwise, I think the amendment is satisfactory and I would urge your support.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Further