

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 7, 2000

LB 1092

SENATOR VRTISKA: Two inspectors would be hired at the outset?

SENATOR DIERKS: I think that the committee amendment strikes the two inspectors and allows the number of inspectors to be established by the person in charge of the program that's established by the committee amendments, and he's in the Department of Agriculture.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Okay. The reason I asked the question was, if you have a locker on the east end of the state and the west end of the state and other places, do you know whether those inspectors you would...the department would try to locate those within a reasonable distance? One of the things that I'm hearing about federal inspection is the inability to get inspectors in to do the inspecting, and I'm curious about how that would be established in order to cover the...the inspection need to be done for these plants to operate.

SENATOR DIERKS: Well, I think that those are part of the logistics that have to be handled by the Department of Agriculture and I'm sure that they will see to it that wherever they have this pilot program working the inspectors will be able to be present in those places.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Okay. Well, thank you. I assumed that that would be a part of the rules that would be set up by the department. The only other question I had, and I guess I would turn to Senator Robak, if she would answer a question for me, please.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Robak, would you yield?

SENATOR ROBAK: Yes.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Senator Robak, I had on pretty good information that in Kansas a great many of the lockers and...processors down there had dropped out of the program because of what I understand, and I hope that you can address this, mostly because the way the program is administered. Do you know anything about that?

SENATOR ROBAK: No, I don't, Senator Vrtiska. I...the people