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amount would be so small that it would not be worth a lot of time taken to deal with that particular aspect because the bill does not create a program...let me ask Senator Wehrbein a question.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Wehrbein, would you yield?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Wehrbein, my understanding is that this is not just a forever ongoing program, so would you share with us the number of years or the year when it is to terminate?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: This is a two-year program.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So the maximum with this amendment, the committee amendment, would be \$2 million, as the bill is drafted if this amendment is adopted.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, and I will say clarification. This was intended to be a two-year appropriation and I do say Senator Beutler has an amendment in to terminate it, I think, in 2005. My intent is to have only the \$2 million appropriation and the \$850,000 appropriation for two years. And if, by chance, the whole act was to continue on a little longer, not use all that money at once, but is intended as a one time jump-start to the rural economy.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Members of the Legislature, I'm a hard man. I am. Senator Wehrbein, I am a hard man. Senator Connealy, I'm a hard man, do you understand that, all of you. But I will listen to what people say and I think about what they say. So even though I may be persuaded on this bill, every thing I've said about all those others stands. I haven't been totally persuaded yet that this is the right thing to do, but I'm not just unalterably opposed to it, and that's why I said earlier I would listen to the discussion before offering any amendments. Had I not had that one up there at this point, I would not have even offered that one initially but, again, it does not touch the philosophy or goal of the bill as being what Senator Wehrbein characterized as a jump-start for the ag or rural economy. So I think the amendment that I've