

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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Senator Thompson and I started having a discussion as far as the reality of things out there, coming down to the end of the session, that this, in fact, is a good program but there are now only eight teachers who have this certification, and then with Senator Schimek coming forward with the...what you'll hear about in adding to the bill the ability then to access a lot of federal dollars for some..another exciting program for teachers was really how that discussion took place. And I just want to have that on the record that there, like with many other bills, there may have been rumors but as far as any conversation I've had with the Governor, LB 1399, he never threatened to veto and he and I have not had a discussion about it with the Thompson amendment. Therefore, I just wanted to make that clear, and I would urge your support of the Thompson amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Thompson, you're recognized to close. She waives closing. The question before the body is the adoption of the Thompson amendment. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted who care to? Record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 2 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Thompson's amendment.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: The amendment is adopted. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Jones, you are recognized for a point of personal privilege.

SENATOR JONES: Mr. President, members of the body, I'd like to take note that this week, March 19th through the 25th, is the National Agriculture Week, and a time to recognize our state and the nation's farmers and ranchers and celebrate agriculture. American prosperity began with agriculture. Thanks to farmers and ranchers, Americans enjoy the most abundant and the healthy and the well-priced food in the world. For every \$1 we spend for food, less than 21 cents goes back to the farmer. The remainder goes to the labor, packaging, transportation, and other costs, items that result in \$21 million for other jobs. It's easy for the public to forget about agriculture, to take farmers and ranchers for granted because there is always an abundance of food at the grocery store and at the restaurant. National Agriculture Week is a time to recognize the importance