

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

April 11, 2000 LB 1092

SENATOR JANSSEN: They...

SENATOR VRTISKA: ...I understand that, but the inspection, as I understand it, on the state would be basically the same type inspection you get from the...from the federal government as far as the quality that you turn out. And I guess I was curious as to why some of them didn't want to support this legislation? As I indicated, when it first came out it looked to me like it was a pilot project, but it would cost a considerable amount of money before we found out whether it was something that we wanted to accept. And with the amendment that I think Senator Wehrbein, or whoever put on it, changed it to where it becomes a study rather than actually implementing a program. It's also my understanding, and you correct me if I'm wrong, and the testimony that we had it was a program that would cost about, in Kansas, about \$3 million a year for the state inspectors, and part of that is reimbursed, is that right, from the federal government?

SENATOR JANSSEN: It's 50 percent in my un...the way I understand the bill, was 50 percent funded by the federal government.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, as I said, I had some problem with this bill because of starting to...the money it was going to cost at the outset, without knowing in fact whether there was going to be that much support for it. And you got to figure out how you're going to tool up a program like this and understand whether there's going to be support for the program, once it gets underway, and who in fact would use the program and then weigh that against the cost. Now, when the federal inspectors do the inspecting, there is no cost to the state. Isn't that correct?

SENATOR JANSSEN: That's correct.

SENATOR VRTISKA: And that's why I had some problems trying to vision...trying to understand why it was necessary to change to a state where we'd have to pay them, but I'm not here to debate that issue, because I think that's something that will have to be determined when the study is done. And, I guess, we'll find