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FLOOR DEBATE

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don't control them this year, then it's going to take several years for us to come back to the original pastures that we once knew. Thought maybe with the colder weather and the rain we would be able to...it would naturally take care of the grasshoppers, but they are hardy fellows out there, and they are not dying with what normal diseases would have taken their lives before. So I do support this, and I hope you will also because we are in dire need of the money. The farmer is willing to put up a third, the federal government is willing to put up the third, we in the state of Nebraska need to have an obligation to put up our third also. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator McDonald. Senator Stuthman.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I, too, support this amendment. In my estimation in our operation last year, we did have a drought, but actually grasshopper infestation is probably a lot worse than the drought because whatever crops that we have there in the lower parts of the fields and in the valleys and stuff, no matter what it was, they just ate everything up. And it was just unbelievable what the damage the grasshoppers have done there. And this isn't real close to my area, just a couple of counties away, probably a little bit further than that, but hopefully if we could get them killed in those areas there, they won't infest our area when we get some winds coming through and then they will be bad in our area. But as for this area and for this year in our area, we've had, you know, abundant rains. We haven't seen very many grasshoppers, and we've got a lot of growth in the pastures again, so hopefully we won't have that problem. But I have real sympathy for those that have a problem with the grasshoppers. And if it does turn dry, the grasshoppers will eat everything that does grow. So I do support this. I will return the balance of my time to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Stuthman. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, not too many weeks ago, if it was a matter of weeks, the body