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FLOOR DEBATE

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by the Department of Agriculture to help the counties. What we...the provisions that we are using to try to keep the noxious weed program going is the Department of Agriculture prints a weed book and they print a group of...a batch of books every five to seven years and sell them, and they're quite popular. That fund has been growing to where there's a balance in there, and also they had an insect book. The insect book does not generate much funds and is going to be discontinued, according to the bill here too. The weed book, the last time that they had some printed, and I think it was just this last year, the costs of printing come in considerably less than they anticipated. So what our bill does is transfers \$25,000 this year out of the Weed Book Fund into the Noxious Weed Cash Fund, and \$25,000 for each year after that; should last for at least nine years. Also, 25 percent of the funds that will...that will come in from the sale of the weed book will also be transferred to the Noxious Weed Cash Fund, and that's anticipated to be, I think, about \$18,000 a year. The funds, the \$25,000, which is in the...which is...to disseminate the balance we have now, will last until about 2009. The rest of the funds that were from the sale of the book, if the \$25,000 is transferred in, the balance of it, it stays in the fund in order to print the next batch of books that would be printed when they would run out with the existing ones. Also, \$38,000 would be transferred to the...to another...where is it, Rick...okay, plant protection and assistance fund, and that comes from the balance, that was money that was left in the insect book, and it would be used more toward the control of insects rather than the noxious weeds. So that would deplete that fund and that would go away from the...from the insect book. But the weed book then would still be sold and that funds would come in and keep us at least going for...till I think around 2009, and maybe something else will have to be addressed then. See what happens on the...with the General Fund, if there's any possibility of getting more money to run the program from that. So that is the funding side of it. The other objectives that we have are to authorize the director to temporarily designate a weed as a noxious weed following criteria for some temporary designation established in consultation with the Noxious Weed Advisory Committee. The designation would be limited to 18 months and after that then they would have to review it again. The idea of this is to try