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FLOOR DEBATE

March 10, 2004 LB 869

transferred, like I said, the \$37,800 to the Plant Pest Cash Fund and also to enable the \$25,000 to be transferred into the Noxious Weed Fund. Secondly, the bill originally said that the department was required to submit a grant to the Environmental Trust Fund and felt like it was not appropriate that they had...they were required to apply for their grant from them, so that was stricken so that they could. It'd be more permissive than it is required. And I think that's basically the committee amendments.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Are you through, Senator Kremer?

SENATOR KREMER: Yes, I am. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Okay. You've heard the opening on the committee amendments, AM2611, by the Ag Committee. Open for discussion on those committee amendments. Anybody wishing to address the committee amendments to LB 869? Seeing no lights on, Senator Kremer. He waives his opportunity to close. The question before the body is adoption of the committee amendments offered by the Agriculture Committee to LB 869. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. The question before the body is the Agriculture Committee amendments to LB 869. Have you all voted who wish to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 26 ayes, 1 nay on the adoption of committee amendments, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion was successful. The amendments have been adopted. We now go to discussion of the bill itself. Senator Stuthman, followed by Senator Beutler.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. First of all, I just want to talk a little bit about the noxious weed program that is in place in Nebraska, and what is the real value of this program. I, as a property owner and served as a county commissioner several years ago, I do not really truthfully see where there is a value of this program. You know, there is...there is an expense of the state to have this weed control commission, the weed control authority. Also, there is expense on the local level because there is a weed