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                         LR 209

particular appointment to the Environmental Control Council, I think it behooves me to say that the State Fair manager, Pat Lloyd, is leaving over the next two weeks, three weeks, and taking another job. But most importantly, he's getting closer to home, where his mother is in serious health. But I don't want...the reason I'm announcing that, so to speak--it just came out this morning--but I don't want it to impact on this, and I don't want to think somebody was sandbagging that. We had this issue, which we all have high regard for Mr. Lloyd, and many of you have expressed that in here. And just because he is leaving, frankly, doesn't mean that that's the end of what we were building upon for the Nebraska State Fair, at least in my opinion and most of us. But I also don't want to have it come out that, yes, you did this, but here you knew we were losing a very important person. So the fact of the matter is, he is leaving, and the fair will go on. But if you're hanging your hat on Mr. Lloyd, personally, it will not be here. But he has...there's other reasons for leaving. It has...I can't speak for him, but it has very little or nothing to do with the situation, because I really believe that he was committed, I know he was committed, to making the fair, the Nebraska State Fair, work, and he certainly was qualified. But it should not color our thinking in terms of either you're for the State Fair or not. But I don't want it to be part of the debate, in terms of thinking that all the facts were not laid on the table in this particular discussion. So that's the reason I'm bringing that up. I'm going to let the rest of you talk about the support for the Nebraska State Fair. In a brief, general response to Senator Raikes, part of my support for the Nebraska State Fair is because it is a part of our history in this state, that whether you want to acknowledge that it should go forward on that basis or not, the issue is, it is important to a large...rather large segment of our population today, particularly in the agriculture area. And I think it ought to have a chance, and that will be on that LR 209CA. But this helps us through a fairly rough spot through this fall as we put on another fair, to provide the prize money, really the heart and soul. There are other sources of revenue for the Nebraska State Fair. But a basic support for this, I think, is absolutely necessary. And we have made this commitment for several years, and I see that I can't peer into the future,