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FLOOR DEBATE

May 12, 2005

LB 90A

Senator Wehrbein waives closing. The question before the house is the adoption of AM1586 by Senator Wehrbein. All those in favor please signify by voting yes; those opposed, nay. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 32 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Wehrbein's amendment.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Senator Wehrbein's amendment is adopted.

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Senator Flood.

SENATOR FLOOD: Mr. President, I move the advancement of LB 90A to E & R for engrossing.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Senator Wehrbein, the Chair is in error. Would you please close with regard to advancement to E & R?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Mr. President, I will waive closing.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. I'm going to make an offer to my rural colleagues. If you all, at any point along the way, can get some backbone, get your feet under you, and look at what they gave away with that \$15 million, and decide you want to do something, I will offer the amendment again, and I'll fight tooth and nail for it. And I believe our colleagues will support us. I believe they will support us, because \$750,000 is not a lot of money. When you're talking about funding an entire program for the whole state for \$1 million, can anybody call that spendthrift? And here's what else will apply. Should there not be a utilization of all that money, it cannot be spent any way other than what the program strictures say. The money remains there. If it is decided to keep the program, it can be used to fund next year. So what is there to lose? You know what, we are supposed to be colleagues. We should not be comfortable watching a segment of our colleagues treated consistently and repeatedly the way our rural colleagues