

in that commodity or any other commodity in foreign countries and do it on a basis where you can compete with other nations you better know how to speak their language and more than that, you better understand their customs and the way that they live. Now I believe Nebraska has used an isolationist's point of view for too long. I think it is time that we make some philosophical decisions on the state level, that we are going to assist all the schools in this state to instigate language programs, to instigate programs whereby the young people of this state will understand the cultures of foreign nations as well as their languages and make it available so that it is available to that small school in rural Nebraska as well as the large school in the urban areas that probably has the program already and that is the intention of LB 62 and I see nothing wrong with that. I think it is time that we made that commitment, that we made that philosophical decision. You know for too long those of us in the agricultural industry have looked at foreign nations and said why don't they buy more of our products, yet we expect them to buy our products when we can't talk to them. We expect them to buy our product in the form that we expect them to use it, not in the form that they may want to use it. In other words, we don't really try to understand why some foreign nation does not like corn-fed beef like Nebraska likes it. We don't try to produce that beef for them or to cut it in the fashion that they want it cut. We try to sell it to them in the way that we expect as Nebraskans for them to eat it and that is wrong. That is one of the reasons we can't sell more of it overseas. I don't think this bill in the end will cost the State of Nebraska anything. I think it will be returned many, many times over the cost of this program in our abilities to export more of our produce and our abilities to understand other nations that we deal with. In the future the people who are being trained in our schools today will be able to return to the State of Nebraska because of their understanding many, many dollars as a result of the cost of a small program started with a bill such as LB 62. So for that reason and for that reason alone I think LB 62 is important, very important to the State of Nebraska and I urge the body's vote to advance this bill over to Select File. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I just wanted to review quickly what I consider the five major defects of LB 62. The first problem with it as I see it and as Senator Remmers has described it, is that we are not giving aid generally to the local school district and letting them decide where to put the money, what is the most important problem but basically we are saying, this