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the nexus between the speciality pesticide industry and agricultural buffer strips? What is the nexus between antimicrobial cleansers and a health care center in Omaha to some buffer strips out in our rural parts of our state? Would not this push up health care costs? Why should the health care industry be paying for these buffer strips? These are questions that I have had, I have raised them with the sponsors, Senator Stuhr and also with the Chairman of the Natural Resources Committee as well as my colleague from south Omaha, Senator Preister. I understand that there has been some discussion and there may be simply the point of responding to my concerns. I did have my light on, but if I would ask the Chairman of the Natural Resources Committee to address some of these aspects, maybe we could establish a little bit of a dialog to help either ease my fears or concerns, explain the bill a little bit better, and perhaps other members of the body might want to listen and participate as well. Senator Beutler, if you wish to respond, I would yield to you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Will you respond, Senator Beutler, or are you yielding time to him, Senator?

SENATOR HILGERT: Yes, yes. I am yielding my time.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Thank you. You have approximately a minute and a half.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Hilgert, thank you for the time. And, as you know, we do plan to respond to your initiatives, because we feel that you raise a legitimate question. The question, members of the Legislature, is something like this, all pesticides in Nebraska pay a registration fee. It is a flat-out fee of \$100. Doesn't matter what volume you produce, it doesn't matter what kind of pesticide is, as long as it is under the broad umbrella of pesticide as defined, you pay \$100 for your product. Now that being in and of itself isn't burdensome to anybody in this state. There are a lot higher fees in other states. They have paid this \$100 every year except last year when it dropped to \$30 because there was so much money in the fund. So it is not like the tax has been going up. It is not like it is a high tax in the first place. But the problem is this. We have now moved into buffer strips. Buffer strips are