

SENATOR HABERMAN: All right, Mr. President, fellow colleagues, I would like to compare 918 and the help it gives the people on grasshoppers as the same thing as the state giving help on ice jams, the same thing as the state giving help to the City of Omaha during the tornado when they sent funds and when they sent the National Guard to help when that disaster hit that community. These grasshoppers to the agricultural people are a disaster and we do need help. We say that agriculture is the backbone of Nebraska and if you vote for 918 it shows that you mean this instead of just giving it lip service and it seems to me that there is a lot of issues and a lot of bills around this Legislature that people give lip service to but when it comes right down to the bottom line some of us don't have the guts to stand up and call a spade or anything else you want to and say this is the way it should be so we need your help. We are being honest about it. We are being fair about it and so the only thing I can do, we would like to have you help us when we need help as we help you when you need help. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: There is an amendment to the bill.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Burrows moves to amend the bill. (See pages 1167-1167 of the Journal.)

SENATOR BURROWS: Mr. Chairman, members of the body, I went along with this bill the last few years as it grew into a bill that started with about \$35,000 in the cost share program to apparently approximately \$2,000,000 of state funds going into a program that I didn't understand as it grew. The federal government years ago, back in the thirties, started cost share programs on chemicals and aid in controlling of grasshoppers and at that time they went with the program that was aimed at all of agriculture but as they moved it up they decided that the farmers could take care of it themselves and they got into a ranchland only program and set some criteria that I think made the program unworkable, unreasonable and maybe one of the biggest boondoggles we took part in in the last year in the State of Nebraska. When we got into sharing this, these costs with the federals, they sent a ten thousand acre minimum package which generally left to almost accident medium or small sized ranches participation in this, to put together that size bracket with some exceptions if it took care of the entire area of infestation. I am not blaming the State Department of Agriculture because the problems that have been created have come from the federal guidelines in which