

March 18, 1980

LB 995

Senator Dworak, do you want to speak to the Haberman amendment? Okay.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President and colleagues, I guess I am one of those rural senators that opposes Senator Haberman on this specific amendment. I might mention that what Senator Haberman did not say is that we are or we have put in a million dollars for his grasshoppers and that ought to please him. We are going to pay along with the federal government fifty percent of the cost of spraying, leaving the rancher only fifty percent to pay out of his pocket. If this million dollars, this additional million dollars that Senator Haberman wishes to spend is put in the budget, instead of paying fifty percent of the cost we will pay sixty-six and two-thirds percent of the cost, and that boils down to about twenty-five cents an acre. So, if it costs approximately \$1.50 an acre to spray, and we are now saying, you only have to pay half of this or about 75 cents, it seems to me that that is a generous cost sharing type formula. Now I just might mention to Senator Haberman there is a lot of things been cut out of this budget already that I was not too particularly pleased with, and as a matter of fact there have been a few things added that I am not particularly pleased with, but I think everybody had to give something. I don't think we are stopping the program. I think it is a good program, even though it had horrendous problems last year, it had horrendous administrative problems, I think, and I am convinced after talking to our Secretary of Agriculture, Mickey Stewart, that they have got those things straightened out. We are not curtailing the program. The only thing we are doing is changing slightly the cost sharing formula. So I urge that we, at this point, keep this budget intact and reject Senator Haberman's amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: I am going down the list of lights that are on. I would suggest that if we are going to move at all this afternoon we are going to have to move more rapidly than we are doing now. Senator Burrows, do you wish to speak on the Haberman amendment?

SENATOR BURROWS: Yes.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay.

SENATOR BURROWS: Mr. Chairman and members of the body, this would be a reinstatement of the bill that failed to advance on General File on the grasshopper bill. The Appropriations Committee chose to leave a million dollars in for this large boondoggle experiment of the federal government, and I

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