

SENATOR SIECK: Yes, Mr. President, members of the body, I do wish to speak on the amendment. I do feel it is a good amendment. As I was listening to Senator DeCamp and Senator Schmit, both, talking on the particular issue I can see some problems with the bill, although I concur completely with Senator Schmit that we need to get the interest rate down, and Senator Harris. There is definitely a problem. I know that there is a lot of money in the State of Nebraska and I know that there is people that want as much interest as they can get. Are they willing to let their interest money drop down to 5 and 6 percent to help agriculture? I'm fearful that they will not and they will just send it out of the state and that's where I got a problem. But we need to send a message and I think Senator Hannibal is going to do this by putting this amendment on. We'll be waiting another two years before it actually comes into effect, but it will send a message and I think that is important. We need to get that interest rate down and I will support the amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL PRESIDING

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Harris.

SENATOR HARRIS: Yes, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise to support the amendment. I think we're all in this together. I think if we took a poll of this body right now there would be a very small number of you that would be able to name the latest closed bank in Iowa. It's the third failure in Iowa this year and we don't even know the name of that institution, name of the town that's affected, the people, the lives that are disrupted by this. We are all in this together and I would submit to Senator Hannibal and the members of the Legislature from the urban areas, including myself, that this is going to flush over into the cities. We have economists within the State of Nebraska that are telling us that Omaha and Lincoln are going to carry the day and carry us through this thing. It's not going to happen. The high priced dollar is causing people to set up their industries overseas which will cut down on the number of jobs available in the State of Nebraska and the contiguous states and the United States. It's a very fundamental decision that we have to make as to whether we want to protect our own industries including agriculture. We're not just talking about agriculture, we're not just talking about the State of Nebraska. Senator Hannibal's amendment speaks to that basic idea and I urge