

employees, eliminate 8,000 employees. In the State of Nebraska, that would mean to cut off, I think we have got 500 employees and we would have 200 left. We would cut out all of the cost-sharing programs that are now known. It will eliminate the watershed program as we have it today. It will eliminate the Great Plains Program as we have it today. The Great Plains Program is a program that has been set up in the western part of the state which has been an excellent program and it is a program that has been working with the Soil Conservation Service in establishing a contract with individual farmers so that they could plan, in the long range, to develop their land to the proper use. The watershed program has been working for many, many years in the State of Nebraska and has done a lot of good and saved a lot of lives as well as saved a lot of agricultural land, saved a lot of towns. We are just beginning to initiate a program on Turkey Creek which is above DeWitt and you know what happened to DeWitt a year ago. It was almost wiped out. Now if this passes and the federal government says, no, it would eliminate that program. It sounds like it will. Who is going to do it? There is no way that the State of Nebraska can pick up these kind of things because it is very, very costly. Now we have a program with federal, state, and local at the present time. The state now has 1,400,000 in the conservation program. We have 2.4 million in the Kerrey plan to even increase that program and we also have local tax dollars from the several NRDs within this state that are helping in this program. So we are cooperating with the federal program, but if they cut it off, we are going to have problems. Now I understand if the Soil Conservation Service is cut as they are anticipating, it will remove a lot of technicians within several counties that we have at the present time. Who is going to pick up that cost? Will it stop? I am afraid much of our work that we are doing in this particular area is going to stop and that is one of the most important things that we can do for the State of Nebraska and to the nation is to save our resources, to save our agricultural land, to hold back the water so that we can make better use of it, watch what we are doing with our pollution. There are so many things that these organizations are doing that needs to be done, yet the federal government says no. Yes, we are willing to take cuts and the resolution says that. We are willing to take some cuts. We know that we all have to pull in, pull in our haunches, and we are willing to do that, but to cut it clear off, I think that is ridiculous. Thank you.