

is, shall the debate cease? Chair will allow 20 seconds for the recording of your votes. Please record your vote. The motion is to indefinitely post...the motion is to cease debate on the motion to indefinitely postpone. Have you all voted? The Clerk will record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate.

PRESIDENT: The motion prevails. The debate is closed. I understand Senator Warner will close debate. May we have attention, please. (Gavel.) Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, some of us perhaps, perhaps some of you take this bill a little lightly. It is not a light matter. You are talking about a principle that most of us make speeches on that government ought not to do those things that people can best do for themselves. You are talking about having government extract money to lobby. I'll ask my urban friends, if you had to pay money in, by law, I don't talk about schools now, I'm talking about private business, if your private business, that you had to pay money in by law to lobby for something that you were against, would you like it? Of course you wouldn't. That is what this bill is proposing to do. As I listen to some of you speak I am certainly aware there are lots of ills in agriculture. This bill is not going to correct the property tax problem. This bill is not going to correct a whole series of problems that I heard mentioned. It is not the answer to the ills. We all know that it is not the answer. If there is one guideline...you know everybody doesn't pay the same. Most organizations that I know of that you can belong to you pay an equal fee. Everybody does not pay an equal fee into this. I would rather suspect at some point that those who pay the most would anticipate that they ought to have the most influence as to what is lobbied for and against. I'd suggest one thing further, that I suspect if you pass this legislation you probably have taken step one to destroy the checkoff boards, which maybe you want to do. But I don't think that you can expect checkoffs to remain and be supported once they get over into that side. I'd urge you vote to indefinitely postpone the bill. There is no limit, no limit to what they can lobby for. There is no accountability, there is no input by producers, there is no choice but to pay at least \$1,250,000. Please indefinitely postpone this bill. It leads to things that none of us want to support.