

that know how to doctor alligators? Do we have an awful lot in common with the way that this state's agricultural economy is run and the State of Mississippi?

SENATOR MARSH: One minute.

SENATOR VICKERS: I question that. I think it would make a lot more sense to at least look toward your neighbors first, your closer neighbors. That is what the amendment does. I would be happy to try to answer any questions about it. But I would finally add that under the terms of this amendment we wouldn't be spending those monies first. We, for a change, would be getting the horse in front of the cart. Thank you, Madam President.

SENATOR MARSH: Before I call on the next speaker who will be Senator Rod Johnson, I wish to introduce some students who are from Senator Withem's district. There are 80 fourth grade students from Pawnee Elementary in Sarpy County and Judy Allgood is with them. Would you please stand and be recognized. Thank you for coming to visit your Legislature. Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Madam Chairperson, members of the Legislature, I rise, of course, to tell you that I have mixed emotions about this amendment. I joined former Senator Karen Kilgarin and some others in supporting a move to have a little bit better oversight over the University's budget, which was not adopted by this Legislature some years ago. And looking at Senator Vickers' amendment, I have mixed emotions because I think he is trying to tell us that we do need some oversight over the University of Nebraska and when those joint cooperative agreements are struck between states that we should have some oversight and some knowledge of what is taking place. So I find myself somewhat in a rock and a hard place because I concur with what he is saying to us, but I also have some misgivings about exactly how this oversight committee is going to work. If you read into the closing paragraphs of his amendment, you will find that no such agreement shall be approved without the approval of the oversight committee. Four people are going to decide from the Legislature, the Appropriations Chairman, the Education Chairman, the Executive Board Chairman and whatever chairman of such subject matter that is deemed important to the agreement, those people will have oversight over this agreement. And I