

agricultural studies and colleges or agricultural college studies? And I think we should center our attention back and get on down the road as to what we are trying to do here. I am against the Pappas amendment, but it does point out the flaws in the Vickers amendment, which I am against, but I am for the bill.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Madam Chairperson, I rise reluctantly to oppose Senator Pappas's amendment. I say that, not because I don't agree with his intent, as I do believe Senator Pappas is bringing to us a very important point. We need to protect agriculture. We need to make a statement for agriculture. And I will be very, very honest with you. When I first read Senator Vickers' amendment, I had the same reaction that, in fact, we were broadening the scope so wide that, in fact, I couldn't see how it related to the subject matter included in LB 204 and I, in fact, was preparing an amendment to strike certain sections of the Vickers amendment because I felt, in fact, that agriculture should have a spokesman on that particular oversight committee. After talking with my colleague, Senator Vickers, I found out that, in fact, he was looking at going beyond just the question of agriculture here with the vet college, but also to include other cooperative ventures that the University of Nebraska may enter into. And I reluctantly went along with that because as I have indicated to you before, I can see that we do need some oversight. But on the other hand, I am very concerned that this issue and this amendment may detract from the basic purpose of LB 204 which is to appropriate funds to continue to work toward a goal of building a vet college in Nebraska in joint agreement with another state or states. I think it is within our realm of possibility to see that this issue is advanced and passed and I hope certainly that those who are supporting the Vickers amendment will also be supporting the bill itself because that is what I am most concerned with and most interested in. As far as what my colleague, Senator Pappas, from North Platte is telling us, I think he is informing us that we need some oversight for agriculture. We have watched a lot of legislation come across the board through budgetary measures as well as legislation dealing with the University of Nebraska to build certain facilities, capital construction projects at the University of Nebraska. Some have been questionable, just as questionable probably as