

one further thing. If LB 204 passes, which a number of people are supporting in here, and which, quite frankly, I'm supporting, the repealer sections of LB 204 repeal those sections of the statutes that these funds come from anyway. So we might as well go ahead and take the funds out of the budget bill because I suspect the bill is going to pass. I hope it passes and when it passes there is not going to be any statutory requirement for these funds to be expended. So I simply ask for the adoption of this amendment to take our \$139,980 out of the budget. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Lamb, you're next, but may I introduce two groups of guests in the south balcony. Senator Chronister has 15 eighth graders from Scribner Public School in Scribner, Nebraska, and their teacher. Will all of you folks please stand and be recognized. Thank you. Senator Richard Peterson has 35 fifth graders from Sacred Heart School in Norfolk, Nebraska, and their teacher. Would you folks please stand. Thanks to all of you for visiting the Legislature today. We're talking today about how we are spending the taxpayers money this coming year so it is at an interesting time. Senator Lamb, please.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, I rise to oppose the Vickers amendment. It makes little sense to pass a bill which we are in the process of doing which is LB 204 and not have any planning money to go with it. It seems to me that we should be consistent one way or the other, that this is a necessary expenditure which we should leave in the budget at least at this time and continue on from there.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, Senator Vickers is offering an amendment that is an important amendment. Senator Vickers will take the planning money out of the vet school. The time is here this legislative session for us to lead the way with hard decisions and the Revenue Committee is going to have to decide within the next 24 hours whether to advance to the floor of the Legislature a bill that will increase the tax rates for all citizens in our state. We can avoid increasing the tax rates if we decide that we are going to remove from our budget some items that we might want, that we might desire, but that are not strong cases. The vet school is at this time in our life in this state no longer a