

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Miller and then Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR MILLER: Mr. President, I want the body to recognize what's actually happening here. These are monies, Senator Vickers' proposal is to take out \$139,000 in monies that were appropriated to study the regional vet school concept. I also will say that I am in support of striking that money from the regional veterinarian medical veterinarian medicine concept. But we have to recognize what 204 does. 204 will subtract out this \$139,000. 204A then makes an appropriation of \$200,000. I want the body to be informed before it happens so that we don't have the cart before the horse that the private industry, the private industry, the livestock industry has come back in recognizing the tight money situation here and I've offered an amendment to 723 that will put \$100,000 of private money into 204A which would leave \$100,000 that would have to be appropriated in 204A from the state general fund. This striking of this out of the appropriations would strike \$139,000 out which would lend a net effect if 204 and 204A pass, of \$39,000. It would be a revenue positive issue and I want to think that, and I want this body to think, that this is a time of tough choices and is this proper spending? And we'll talk more about that when 204A comes, but I want you to remember that we are now striking out of the budget, if this amendment passes, \$139,000 to go back into the general fund.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Rod Johnson, please.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members, I rise reluctantly from the standpoint that I am concerned about the concept of the vet college as a whole. We have discussed the importance of the vet college or the unimportance of that vet college on LB 204 and I think Senator Miller has done an excellent job of outlining just what the progress of this particular issue is at this point. It is always easiest, I think, when we start discussing the budget to eliminate those programs that are not near and dear to your own heart. In fact if you're opposing those particular projects it's always easy to find those areas first ones to cut. There is no question that the vet college is going to be a very sensitive and a very difficult issue for this body to handle when that particular issue comes back up for second round of discussion. But I think