

that we have to recognize that it does have some merit, that an extensive amount of planning and effort has been put into bringing to this state a vet college either under regional or an exchange program that is now being proposed by the University, one that I think we should give some serious consideration to. All I can say is I have some concerns that this body may ultimately kill the vet college concept completely, but as much as I appreciate what Senator Vickers is saying, I guess if in fact we're going to cut this money out of this particular concept, I would certainly like to see us act on 204 and 204A so that we can continue to promote this particular project under another vehicle, and certainly there is a vehicle out there for us to look at it. The livestock industry has indicated that they will commit themselves to \$100,000 of the necessary \$200,000 the state must come up with for a federal match. I think that is a significant contribution from their particular standpoint, and so with that, I'd just urge you to seriously consider that this issue goes deeper than just this particular amendment. In fact it goes to the heart of the question of the vet college and I've heard different reports about what the Governor may do with the vet college money. As I said before, it's always easiest to cut those programs that you're not close to and then of course support the ones that you're promoting in this body. So with that, I urge you to seriously consider this particular overall effort.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vickers, would you like to close, please.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, if this body wants to continue to plan and spend money for planning, spend \$139,980 to be precise per year to plan something, to coordinate something, to talk about something that a lot of folks wonder if it will even ever really happen, then I guess that's the wishes of this body. But I want to remind you we've spent over \$500,000 the last few years doing that very same thing and you go out there and show me what we've accomplished with it, absolutely nothing. We're also being told that the livestock industry is going to put in \$100,000 and we've got to do all these wonderful things for the purpose of implementing LB 204. Get the bill out and read it. All the bill says is that it authorizes the Board of Regents to enter into agreements to have a regional college of veterinary medicine with an existing school. That's all it says. Now if you really believe you need to spend 100 or