

Vickers a question. Senator Vickers, do you believe that the bill and the amendments would be enforced, and, if not, what would we do about it to bring an enforcement about?

SENATOR VICKERS: Senator Schmit, I would suggest that if the Legislature adopts this concept, that there will be, in my opinion, at least, undoubtedly a court test of it because I think it will be attempted to be enforced. I think there will be a court test and according to the Attorney General's report which you have before you that the Attorney General thinks they can support this concept. If it is supported, my suggestion would be that it will only have to be withheld once and it probably won't happen any more. I would further add to answer your question to Senator Warner that the funds do not go away. The funds are put in escrow and held until the county corrects the problem which could be as soon as five days. So the money is not gone from the particular county, be it Douglas County or whatever other county it might be.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Of course, if you can eradicate the musk thistle in Douglas County in five days, that is going to be a record of some kind, Senator, in fact, if you can eradicate it in any county in five days. But I think...I think you are highlighting a problem here and I think it is one we ought to address and I think we have to recognize that it is easy to enforce it out in a rural county where you can spot a few thistles along the highway, or along the road, along the railroad right-of-way. It's very, very difficult to enforce it in Lancaster and Douglas County. You have many lots that have absentee owners and that sort of thing and it is extremely difficult.

SPEAKER NICHOL PRESIDING

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I am going to vote for the amendment. I voted for the bill, but I want everyone to know that I am not anti-Douglas County when I am doing it, not anti-Lancaster County and I would hope that some of you who do come from those areas will rise and speak to the issue because I think you should be aware of the potential loss of revenue. It will be a serious loss if the law is enforced. I can tell you after 20 years of activity in trying to control musk thistle, it is just about a draw in most areas