

serious amendment. I would add, after "impartial", "purple ribbon" to the makeup of the committee. I think with all the discussion, Senator DeCamp, and the tempers that are flaring on this, I thought maybe a little levity wouldn't hurt anything at this point. You know, this issue divides the state in a fashion that is not healthy and quite harmful, in fact. It is an important issue and it is worth discussing. But at the end of the line we are all Nebraskans, we are all people that wish each other well, want to see the economy strong, don't want to hurt agriculture, and I hope we all keep that in mind. Now one concern I have is any time you form a committee or a task force you try and make it a blue ribbon task force, and we haven't indicated on this that we wanted a blue ribbon task force which means we must not be as concerned with who gets appointed as normally is the case. To show my deep concern on that I went even one more than purple, from blue ribbon up to purple ribbon, which is the top of the line. However, because of the intensity of the debate, and the fact that this really doesn't change anything, I'd ask that this amendment be withdrawn.

SPEAKER NICHOL: It is withdrawn. Do you have anything else, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Beutler would move to amend. (Beutler amendment appears on page 725 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I spoke earlier with regard to the possibility, with regard to the possibility that getting this done in a thorough and effective way, in a six-week period, given the resources that the Legislature has available now, may well be a very difficult, if not impossible task. I want to be sure that this Legislature is committed to getting it done in whatever way is necessary to do it right. Therefore, what my amendment says, basically, is that in the event that the Executive Board determines that outside research assistance is necessary in order to complete the task in an effective and objective manner in the time period given, which is a very short time period for this kind of thing, that it is the intent of the Legislature to approve a deficit appropriation of up to \$20,000, if necessary. I think that