

want it to become that, and I know that none of my colleagues want it to become that. Senator Sieck has pointed out that it has not caused much trouble in Iowa, and he is correct. I just got off the telephone from Senator Boswell and Senator Waldstein, in Iowa, just talking to them and they assured me that the bill had worked fairly well in Iowa. I believe it can be a positive factor here in Nebraska, and I know that there are concerns. I'm a little concerned about my good friend, Senator Hannibal, my seatmate here who wants to opt out the urban territory because I believe there may be some good reasons why we should not just close our eyes to the possibilities of severe soil erosion in the urban areas. I know that that is always the easy way to go, and I'm certainly willing to listen to his ideas and his concerns. But I want to emphasize at this time that I am not readily amenable to letting anyone else opt out. I'm glad to listen to him. He may have some good suggestions, he usually does. But I'm not going to, at this point, give a blank check to opting anyone out. I think if it is good enough for one of us, it is good enough for all of us. I would move the adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Rod Johnson, please.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, members, I simply want to rise to neither oppose nor support the amendment because I feel the bill, as it is, the 75 percent cost share is probably workable. It does allow, if you read the bill carefully, that the NRDs can go beyond that point and provide additional funding however much they may want to do it. In some NRD areas they've indicated that the conservation of soil will be a high priority in their respective districts and they wish to add additional money for the cost share program. In fact I had one NRD tell me they might go as high as 90 percent themselves with the 75, and then, of course, the additional 15 percent being picked up by the NRD. So there are options there that the local districts may choose to follow, depending upon the soil erosion problem in their respective districts. I have no problem with the fact, if you want to make it 90 percent that is fine. You have to realize that the resources, and I think this is what Senator Schmit is addressing, the resources to this project are very limited. And I think that we have to recognize that one major project, or a couple of major projects may use up the entire funding for