

or amendments to this bill as it gets to Select File. But more importantly I guess I would like to raise the point that this Legislature, for the last several years, has been doing a lot of lip service to certain things, but not really providing the necessary dollar resources to carry out those purposes designed by that lip service. And I would suggest to you that this bill, LB 474, is going to be one of those. It is going to be a nice little apple pie and motherhood issue. We're going to say we're going to really do something as a Legislature to control the soil loss, that great natural resource that Senator Sieck spoke about, and we're going to put it in the statutes just as we did a few years ago when we said we're going to really pass a comprehensive educational bill, LB 994, but we're not going to fund it. We're going to talk nice. We're going to talk a nice fight, but we're not going to do anything about carrying it out. I think we're going to be doing the same thing with this one. Now I don't mind talking the fight, but occasionally, occasionally if you are really going to get anything done, you've got to do more than just talk about it. And I don't think that this bill in itself is going to solve any of the problems that we all know are out there, but it may start the process. With that, I will support the bill because it starts the process and a large part of it is educational, educational not only to us but out across the state as well. There are some problems with soil erosion, I admit that. But I can tell you I am a little bit concerned because a lot of those people out there are struggling as much as they can to hang onto that land, and I'm one of them. Part of that soil erosion problem is not always tied to the production of grains. It is not always tied to the production of farming as most people tend to think of it, the tilling of the soil. And I don't know whether there are any, or ever has been any shared programs to assist a rancher who is simply overgrazing his grass. I don't know whether there is or not. But I raise the caution flag that we could be putting in a mechanism here to say to that rancher, look, you probably ought not overgraze so much. Now that is appropriate.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Half a minute.

SENATOR VICKERS: That is probably appropriate. But under the current conditions I'm grazing it as heavy as I possibly can. I don't have any choice. I don't have any choice as neither do a lot of other agricultural producers out there.