

them in certain parts but I would say that they are wrong in the assessment of the future of agriculture. The future of agriculture is still going to be corn and cattle and soybeans and wheat and hogs and sorghum. I see that as the future of agriculture. It has been in the past and it will continue to be in the future, but I do think that we need to diversify. I think that this is the proposal that will help diversify Nebraska's agricultural economy, but I don't think that it should be looked upon as a panacea that is going to revive the economy of the State of Nebraska. I would love to have the same amount of money that is going to be poured into this particular project we put into the ethanol development proposals that we've had in the years past. Senator Schmit is carrying a major proposal that could use this kind of money in LB 1230 and I think there are several other worthwhile economic development proposals for ag that we need, but certainly the word food processing is going to be talked about ad nauseum in the next...during this coming campaign year and I just wanted to point out, don't lose sight of the simple fact that the basics in agriculture are still those six elements that I talked about earlier. We're not going to switch over to alternative crops all that quickly and I'm not sure that that's going to make up that big of the part of the ag economy. So we have to recognize there are certain limitations and realities in this situation, this subject. But clearly it is probably a step in the right direction. I'm going to support it. I'm going to give it my wholehearted support, but I wanted to point out some very simple facts that while we can all go home and tell our constituents that we made a substantial step forward for agriculture today, that the problems are still going to be there tomorrow and the end of this year and next year until we can address the real problem and that is the prices for the commodities and products that we grow that really make up Nebraska's ag economy. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lowell Johnson, then Senator Rupp.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I, too, rise in support of LB 1038. Senator Warner, myself, and 22 other senators have introduced this bill to accommodate a need for the use of Old West Regional Veterinary College funds which were appropriated several years ago by the U.S. Congress. This is really a two-pronged effort to accommodate the use of those funds for the benefit of Nebraska. And as a reminder of the things