

(Lamb amendment appears on page 1616 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lamb, please.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President, members...

SPEAKER NICHOL: The call is raised.

SENATOR LAMB: This is an amendment which does not transfer money from anybody else. It is out and out increase of \$70,000 for predator control, \$70,000 for agriculture. This is a program which was severely curtailed the last time around. And I've had many letters from people who are having problems with particularly with sheep and turkeys and some with cattle, coyote control in those areas. The \$70,000 is needed to fund this program to the extent that federal money will be available. It is one of those things that we can do for agriculture. This is a positive step toward agriculture's enhancement. We have a lot of rhetoric in support of agriculture, but not very much that is concrete. This is one small amount which will help those people out there that are having these problems. I would ask that this amendment be adopted.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Rod Johnson, then Senator Miller.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members, I rise only for an informational standpoint. We do have an amendment pending on LB 1101 that would establish a cost share program for the animal damage control of 63 percent General Funds, 37 percent cash funded by the basis of user fees that those ranchers or wool growers who may utilize or need the services of the animal damage control program could actually pay through a fee for the program. Now that simply is for your information. Whether or not that issue will come up this year or not is undetermined, and basically depends upon the ability of this Legislature to move through the legislation and hopefully get to that particular bill. But I just raise that for your own information that if, in fact, this amendment does not go, which I have a strong feeling it will not, there is another backup proposal that is out there. I just wanted to bring that to your attention because there is a program that is available that we've been working on with Senator Vickers and some others to try and fund this animal damage control program, which, as Senator