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CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment I have to the bill is by Senator Rod Johnson. (Rod Johnson amendment appears on page 1862 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, members, I believe the motion I filed is to reinstate \$150,000 into the Farmers in Transition program that Senator Vickers tried yesterday morning but was unsuccessful. I think that you probably have had an opportunity or been approached by someone that has talked to you about the merits of the particular program so I won't go into a great deal of background on the issue other than to say that I think that the program has proven to be very successful. You are looking at an economy where the Department of Agriculture has told us that we may lose as many as 3,600 farmers in 1986. This Farmers in Transition program will then be able to help those people out who unfortunately are going to go through the climactic endeavor of trying to find a new occupation and I think that the program has proven itself to be one of meritorious and helped in a great number of individuals. It also has been utilized as an economic development tool by many businesses in the State of Nebraska which I don't think it was expressed yesterday. Many of the businesses around the State of Nebraska have used this job trainings program to employ farmers in new occupations, and as I said, and I will repeat it again, over and over again, there have been very few things that we have done in this Legislature to help the farmer, especially the farmer who is at this particular time out of business. This is one opportunity to try and let them pick up the pieces of their life and try and find a new occupation in something outside of the agricultural sector. I think the program is meritorious and stands on itself and I don't think I need to spend a lot of time explaining it. It is either an up or down vote. This I am sure will be the last attempt by Senator Vickers or myself to try and reinstate the money in this program but there are very few programs that I think have as significant an impact upon agriculture and those that need help, if we are basing our opinions on need, as any program this state offers. And so with that, I would certainly urge the body to adopt the amendment and reinstate the funding in this program because I think it does go a long way to serve the State of Nebraska.

PRESIDENT: (Gavel.) Members, please keep your conversational