

the state out of any responsibility at all, we're going to give them what they haven't had. We're going to give them a club. We're going to give them a way to enforce it. Well, that's another issue. It's a bill that is setting out here, I think it's on General File, but anyhow there is a bill that we have changed in the Agriculture Committee to give them that tool, that club. But they can't use the club if they don't have somebody to at least find out where they need to use the club on. It would be like giving a two-armed, or a person without any arms, a pair of boxing gloves and tell him to go defend themselves. We've got to at least give them this amount of money in order to keep them in a position of being able to enforce the noxious weed laws once we do give them the club to do it. Now, as I indicated a little bit ago, I understand the severity of the economic problems and so do my neighbors, for God's sakes. How do you think those farmers are going to feel when they find out we got musk thistles or noxious weeds running all over the place and the state in its zeal to hold down the tax rates and in its zeal to deal with the economic problems did away with that control? And if you think the counties are going to do it, you don't know the counties very well. If you think some of those counties are actually going to enforce it, as Senator Schmit pointed out, in Douglas County they don't enforce it very well, and I can point to a few counties in rural Nebraska that don't enforce them very well as well. If we want to do that, and if that's the mood that this Legislature is in, then maybe we'd ought to go back into the Attorney General's Office. Maybe we'd ought to cut a whole bunch of funds out of the Attorney General's Office because if we're not going to enforce the noxious weed laws from the state level, why we should we enforce other laws? Why don't we just turn over to the counties and say, here, you enforce the speed limit, you enforce a whole lot of other things, we don't care if it is done at the state level, we'd save a lot of money. We could do away with the State Patrol and a whole lot of other things, but we're not going to do that. So why do it to those folks involved in agriculture? Why do it to those folks that have the problems anyhow?

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR VICKERS: Why take away the one little tool they've got? Now the other 50,000 that Senator Johnson and I have asked for is for a Financial Management Assistance Program.