

restore the \$24,010 for noxious weeds. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Senator Rod Johnson. Six are excused. Senator Vickers, pardon me.

SENATOR VICKERS: A record vote.

SPEAKER NICHOL: A record vote please. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Record vote read. See page 76 of the Legislative Journal.) 19 ayes, 24 nays, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The amendment to the committee amendment fails. Now we are on the...that portion of it, the first half fails. Now we are on the second portion which is the \$50,000 for Financial Management Assistance Program. Senator Vickers, Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Well, Mr. President, I basically explained most of my objections to this cut in my earlier statements but I would like to say that this is a particular program that is contracted with the University of Nebraska through the Department of Agriculture in an attempt to get programs out to farm families to provide Financial Management Assistance. We have already, since the program was instituted back in 1984, about 600 families have participated in this program. I think it is a highly successful one. It is one that is working and I am certainly hoping that we can continue the funding in this particular area because this is one area I think that we are going to need more and more as the crisis that now confronts agriculture continues to grow, and I am hoping that we can get this particular cut back in. This, in fact, is one of those cuts that the Agriculture Committee or the Agriculture Department brought in after the 3 percent cut was made, and when the 5.6 cut was asked, they brought this in as part of that additional cut. It is the one that I think they would like back the most of all the cuts. In fact I know it is and I think it is more important to them than possibly some of the other cuts that we have before us that were made by the Appropriations Committee and I think it is one of those programs that deserves our attention, and I think that it has been doing a good job, as I said. It has served 600 farm families up to this point, and cutting the funding out of this program I think would be very detrimental to an awful lot of people in agriculture, and I am hoping that you will agree with me and put this money back in the budget.