

fee rate for inspection of bees for diseases and the other necessary things would be appropriate. Well, that really isn't worked out well yet. It was probably going to happen in the regular session. So what the amendment does, it merely funds the one position through January, February and March of this fiscal year, providing an opportunity to keep it intact, but also providing the incentive, if I can use the word, by those interested in the bee industry to develop and introduce the next session appropriate legislation adjusting those fees, an appropriate mixture of Cash and General Fund. We still would have a reduced budget for the inspection program of 24,000, but I think this is a reasonable thing to do. It provides the interested groups to develop the proper legislation that can be heard in the Agriculture Committee next session and determined. So I would urge the body to adopt the resolution. It is not a significant amount, but I think it will provide those individuals with the time to develop the kind of program they want to offer.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Dick Peterson.

SENATOR PETERSON: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I appreciate the Appropriations' concern that they do need a little funding for right now. I have told the beekeepers for several years that they are going to have to come into some cash funding and now this really jarred them to the fact that they are going to have to do some cash funding and there will be legislation coming in the next session where they hope to generate, through some cash funding, 20 to \$25,000 and they have come, I think, to realize too that they will have to get along with a little less money on the General Fund and I ask for your adoption for this 15,000 till we get the legislation adopted for the next session for the cash funding to come in. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Harold Sieck, please.

SENATOR SIECK: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I support this amendment. Now I didn't think much of it until I met with a group of beekeepers yesterday and you know this could really hurt the economy of our state if we allow this department to be eliminated. Once a disease could get into these bee colonies, we'd hurt the seed production in our state, we'd hurt the fruit production in our state, and we would be in dire straits. At the