

reconsider. Please record your vote if you wish to vote. The motion is to cease debate on the motion that has been before us. Record the vote, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The motion carries. Senator Johnson. You may close, Senator Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, I will make a very brief closing. I indicated to Senator Schmit who is sitting in the back of the room that if he wanted part of my time and he indicated he did so I just give him forewarning that I am on my closing at this particular point. I would just like to reiterate a couple of points. I think Senator Vickers did step upon a few issues that are extremely important and I think he reiterated what I had said also that we are going to have to set some priorities in this state and we are going to have to do a better job of cooperating with our neighbors around us in trying to work our way through this in finding solutions to the basic problems in agriculture today at the local level, at the state level and also putting more pressure upon our national officials to do a better job as well. I would like to go back to the speech that Senator Warner gave this morning to the Chamber of Commerce. He indicated to them, we are going to work our way through this problem this special session, but he did indicate to the group, at least I thought I heard him say to the group that the economy probably is not going to get better, that we are going to have a lot of tough decisions ahead of us next year as well. And I think that is the keynote of this particular amendment and my speech in closing simply saying that I assume if you think the economy is bad today, it is probably going to be worse by the time we get back here and begin budget discussion again in February, April and that particular time frame. So I would say that these programs, quite frankly, as Senator Vickers pointed out, will be on the budgeting cutting block more than just this particular special session. And I have had some of my colleagues in here say this is just simply politics, that the University, the President of that University is playing politics with the Nebraska Legislature, putting sacrificial lambs out on that chopping block that they know will cause public reaction, that they know that they would not cut but certainly will force the Legislature into a box of supporting lowering cuts or not