

trying to develop trails, and there are some excellent trails within the city limits of Omaha. But what is lacking, and I guess I would say in conclusion why I support this bill so much is that what is lacking is an overall state initiative, or policy to join all of these various trails and projects together into a whole statewide system. And I think not only is it good for our health, it's healthy that we get out and utilize our outdoors in a healthy way. And certainly this will help us do that. But it also will, and I like to support measures that will bring the greater Nebraska and the urban areas together. And I think this is an excellent opportunity for people to...from the urban areas, especially those people who, new residents of Omaha, for example, my city, to utilize a trail system to get out into greater Nebraska and learn more about the state. It's a wonderful place, and it needs to be discovered, I think. And the more we in Omaha discover the rest of the State of Nebraska, I think the better it is for our state as a whole. I see this as really one of those projects that's going to pay significant dividends for our state, and especially for our people and the people in my district who, I think, need to learn more about greater Nebraska. And this gives them an opportunity to do that. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Ashford. Mr. Clerk, do we have a motion on the desk?

ASSISTANT CLERK: Madam President, Senator Lamb would move to amend the bill by striking Section 7.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Thank you, Madam Chair. Members of the Legislature, this amendment strikes the \$100,000 of the funding out of the bill. I think that, as has been previously mentioned on the floor, in this tight budget year we just simply don't have the money for this sort of item. The concept may be good, however, I did vote to get the bill out of committee. I think that may have been a serious mistake on my part, and I don't know if I can rectify it at this point now, but I'll try. I did read in the paper recently that there is a proposal to establish a trail out east of Lincoln on an abandoned railroad site. And, as I understand it, there's a big drive going on to collect the money from private sources to establish that trail. I think that part of it is commendable. I do have a problem with some of these trails that would like to use the railroad