

recreational activities that are financed by General Fund money in the State of Nebraska today. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Does anyone else wish to speak to this amendment? Seeing none, do you have closing, Senator Wehrbein?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: No, I don't. I guess I can't much add to what I've been saying. This is a very serious subject in my area. It's going to be a very serious subject in many of your areas as you face abandonment of railroad right-of-ways in the future. I know of a couple potential across the state. And so it's...many feel in Aurora it's an encroachment. In this case, with state funding, it's an unfair encroachment. I don't know of areas, in recent years especially, that the Game Commission has used eminent domain or that type of thing to take over recreational areas. As I stated earlier, we've got 30,000 acres within about an hour's drive of Lincoln, and evidently that isn't enough so we've got another 320 acres being taken out in the middle of prime farm land, subsidized by the state in this case, taken from unwilling sellers in most case, from unwilling participants. They weren't necessarily sellers because the railroad took this ground, or at least it was deeded, a hundred years ago and now, because we have a change in emphasis, we've gone from railroads to bikes, different form of transportation I guess, to use that same ground. My premise all along was that this ground was not intended for biking. It's an improper place for biking. It's going into the heart of agricultural land. I still don't have any opposition to trails in appropriate places, but it just seems to me it's unfair to put state money against local landowners' bids and that's what this could potentially happen in the future especially, and I support this amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. We'll now vote on the Wehrbein amendment. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted on the Wehrbein amendment? Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 7 ayes, 13 nays, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The amendment fails. Are there further amendments, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill at this time, Madam President.