

case some ten to twelve cents a gallon that the oil companies are the only ones that are going to be taking it on the chin as opposed to the American consumer.

SENATOR PROUD: Well the oil companies have to stay in business don't they, American consumer won't get any a oil. I'm not speaking for the oil companies, I don't know anything about them, but I am just wondering how we reached that price and I think that you have explained it to the best of your ability.

SENATOR SNYDER: Yeah, which may be limited.

SENATOR PROUD: No, I wouldn't say that.

SENATOR SNYDER: To say the least, but I think I like a lot of others would like to know a lot more about the oil companies, but I think that we are arguing a rather mute point here at this time. I think that if we have the opportunity to be one of the forces which brings the federal government to take some quick action and I think that while the price is up in the air. If you would prefer to say 35¢ if you would prefer to say just roll it back, I can live with that, I'm just including in the resolution what the testimony that I have listened too, and have used to reach a decision that I think would be in the best interest of the country if we could get this type of action, whether we can or not I'm not sure.

SENATOR PROUD: I understand Senator, I'm not arguing, I was just asking for the information. You do understand that don't you?

SENATOR SNYDER: Certainly.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the legislature, I want to support the resolution and I want to make a statement to begin with that I don't believe that the federal government or any other government knows any more about the oil business than they do about the beef business or anything else. To pick an arbitrary figure and say that is where the price should be rolled back to is to make ourselves a little bit vulnerable. I would suggest that Senator Snyder meeting yesterday was the best thing that has happened in this regard in a long time. It focused attention, it focuses the spotlight on the situation. If you will notice in your newspaper this morning AMICO has reduced their prices by several cents per gallon. Now I think that right now we have the responsibility to back these independent truckers in this and in this regard. When the cattle feeder has to feed his cattle, he has no recourse except to feed those cattle. They need to be fed, they can't buck the price trend. When the farmer needs to go to the field in the spring, he has to go to the field in April because he has only one opportunity to plant that crop and that is when it is time for him to go to the field. He can't buck the price increase. When the homeowner has to pay that price for fuel they have no recourse other than to freeze. If they don't pay for that fuel. The independent trucker is under no obligation to haul produce for less than it costs him to do so. Now Senator Proud I'm amazed that you do not know why these truckers can't raise their rates. Most of those rates are