

Under that basis, this particular point is definitely controversial. I believe that this...I move that this bill be removed from the consent file.

SENATOR MARVEL: Do I see three objections? OK, the bill under the rules as I understand them, if three objections the bill can be removed so it will be removed from the consent file. Are you, Senator Schmit, are you ready on 390?

CLERK: Read LB 390. There are no committee amendments or other amendments pending.

SENATOR MARVEL: Chair recognizes Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature. LB 390 is a bill introduced by the committee for the Nebraska Wheat Commission and it increases the amount of money that can be checked off for purposed of promotion, development, and new uses for the wheat industry from the money that is received from the farmers from 2½ to 5 mills per bushel. In other words, it doubles the amount of money that can be checked off. It also provides that the commission can reduce the amount of money that the check off if they feel they do not need it. I think we're all aware of the fact that the commission has operated for many years on the 2½ mills. We're also aware of the fact that increased costs have caused the 2½ mills not to reach as far as they have in the past. The commission does not intend to use the full 5 mills at the present time. They have asked for the authority to do so if they need it and they have also provided in this bill that if they do not need the money, they can reduce the amount of money levied to the amount that is needed. I'd move the advancement of the bill.

SENATOR MARVEL: You've heard the motion and the second. Is there any discussion? Senator Koch, did you...Senator Kelly, your light is on. Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I would like to ask Senator Schmit a few questions about this bill. I have had some interest about it. Senator Schmit, as I understand the Wheat Commission, are they responsible... the funds that they spend do not go through any type of an appropriations process. The Wheat Commission is really the only body that is accountable for expenditure of these funds. Is that correct?

SENATOR SCHMIT: That is basically correct, Senator Cullan. The funds are expended under the guidance of the Director of Agriculture and the commission.

SENATOR CULLAN: The wheat commissioners or the individuals on this board are all appointed by the Governor. That's also true, isn't it?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, that is also correct.

SENATOR CULLAN: In the soybean board or something has elected board members or there was a bill to do that. Has this ever been considered for the wheat board and if so, what would the possible costs of elections for these individuals?

SENATOR SCHMIT: I really don't have the figures on the costs for elections of the soybean board. Of course, as you are aware the soybean producers are not nearly as extensive as