

in some detail in what they can do and what they can't do. Senator Johnson, your namesake, Senator Rod Johnson probably could have informed you, there are probably those who would say this in effect amounts to lobbying and in fact might be a part of influencing legislation. I don't think it would. That is not, in my opinion, the responsibility of the compact. I would have no reason whatsoever to oppose that, Senator Johnson. I would suggest that we might want to take another long look at everything the checkoff boards are doing and I would think that they might very well voluntarily agree to finance the appropriation. I can think of many less worthwhile projects probably that have been financed by the boards over the years. So I would certainly have no objection. I think that Senator Warner might have some thoughts on that also. We have discussed that in the past a few times.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Thank you, Senator Schmit.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President and members, I, of course, rise to support the bill and to urge this body to advance this legislation on to Select File for continued debate. Senator Schmit has already indicated we have some cleanup to do with the bill but I am sure that we will be able to accomplish that on Select File. We had a look at this bill and I think the way the Agriculture Committee looked at this, certainly there is a lot of undefined areas in this legislation but we recognize that once again this is another piece of legislation that might help provide some local incentives to work together with other states to solve some of the agricultural problems that we now have facing agriculture in Nebraska as well as in the Midwest. This is another one of those legislative proposals I assume that you could classify as a self-help piece of legislation. Under this situation, we are not looking to the federal government for assistance. We are looking to cooperate with our sister states to try and come up with some ideas on how we can market our grain and get hopefully a better price for the farmer and I certainly endorse this legislation and I hope this body will advance the bill. I think Senator Schmit has looked into this much longer than I have and I am certain that he has much more expertise than I do on this legislation. One of the reasons that we pushed back the sunset date to 1987 was the fact that we felt under the bill