

March 25, 1988

LB 632

LR 424

PRESIDENT: The Hartnett amendment is adopted. Do you have anything else?

CLERK: Yes, Mr. President, I do. If I could, right before that, two items for the record.

PRESIDENT: Okay.

CLERK: The report of registered lobbyists for this past week. (See page 1768 of the Legislative Journal.)

New resolution, LR 424, by Senators Landis, Korshoj and Remmers. (Read explanation of LR 424. See pages 1768-69 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, the next amendment I have to the committee amendments is by Senator Schmit. Senator, I have AM2764 in front of me. (The Schmit amendment appears on page 1728 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit, please.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Mr. President and members, the amendment which I offer here to you today is in addition to that which Senator Hartnett's amendment takes care of. Senator Hartnett's amendment principally addresses the bonding problem and we have discussed it and I believe that the body recognizes that bonds are another very important tool that can accelerate and improve the highway construction program of the State of Nebraska. A number of years ago, when I first became Chairman of the Committee of Public Works, I became very interested in the highway program and I took it upon myself to travel the State of Nebraska and attempt to talk to the people across the state in the cities and counties and villages. I talked to the Highway Department. I talked to contractors. I talked to many people, trying to find out, in my...in their opinion and the opinion of local people and those most involved, what they thought they could do to improve the highway program in the State of Nebraska. Very frankly, when I set out across the State of Nebraska on this kind of a quest, I had sort of made up my mind and that was that there were a lot of unnecessary dollars in the highway program. As I traveled across the state, I found the reverse to be true. I found that there were many, many unmet needs in the state. The interstate highway system, as you know, has been described as being worn out. The facts are that it is