

April 4, 1979

LB 221, 538

CLERK: (Read record vote found on page 1313 of the Legislative Journal.) 27 ayes, 12 nays, 5 excused and not voting and 5 present and not voting, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried and the bill is placed on General File. Senator Schmit, are you ready to take up your motion on LB 538 which is on the agenda under item 9 on motions? While you are getting your notes together it is my privilege to introduce to the Legislature, underneath the South balcony, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Morrison of Omaha District #10 and they are friends of Senator Pirsch. Welcome to the... Will you please stand so we may recognize you? You picked an interesting time to visit the Legislature. Senator Schmit, are you ready on your motion to return 538 for a specific amendment?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, Mr. President, I am ready. I so move.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Do you wish to explain your motion?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, you will remember, Mr. President and members of the Legislature, that when LB 538 was progressing across the board, Senator Murphy and several of our colleagues expressed concern that the bill was not drawn precisely enough to limit what was feared to be unnecessary growth of government in the Department of Agriculture and the administration of various checkoff programs. As a result of that concern I agreed to meet with the department and draft some amendments that would specifically limit the responsibilities of the department and the activities in which they could engage. These amendments that I have drawn which are here at the present time have been, of course, circulated to you. Senator Murphy tells me they meet with his concern and that they are pleasing to him. I have a number of other persons who have expressed a similar vote of confidence in the amendments. I could go through the amendment page by page and line by line but I just want to say in lieu of taking a lot of time that the amendments specify more thoroughly the responsibility of the Department of Agriculture in their administration of the various checkoff programs and delineate more thoroughly the areas in which they may participate. I believe the amendments are good. The amendments are agreeable with those persons who expressed concern on this floor. They are agreeable to the Department of Agriculture and I have had no objections from the various checkoff programs that have been administered in the past and which will in the