

February 4, 1980

LB 61

CLERK: 27 ayes, 4 nays, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried. The amendment is adopted. Are we ready to advance the bill?

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Marsh, do you move the advancement of the bill?

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. Speaker, I do move the advancement of LB 61. This is protecting farmers and agricultural land around Lincoln and Omaha from the problems associated with unregulated subdivisions in rural areas. Indiscriminate intermingling of farm and urban development make economic provision of services difficult. With LB 61 this will move us into conformity with the other areas of the State of Nebraska.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Schmit, your light is on. Do you wish to be recognized before we move the advancement of the bill?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, I do, Mr. President. Mr. President and members of the Legislature, after I voted to move this bill to the floor, I took it upon myself to take an aircraft and fly the proximity of both the cities of Lincoln and Omaha. I flew the perimeters a number of times. I want to tell you very frankly that even today with the five acre limit there is widespread expansion of the metropolitan area onto farmland surrounding the cities. As I said earlier, and I may be wrong, and I hope I am, Senator Marsh, because everyone else is apparently in step except myself, but as nearly as I can tell, what will happen when this amendment is adopted and this bill is advanced is that you will double the pace at which farmland is encroached upon by the cities. As I have said earlier, it is not going to make any difference to the people who build those \$200,000 homes that I find surrounding these cities whether they have to buy five acres or ten acres of land. What will happen, in my opinion, is that it will greatly increase, tremendously increase the cost to the cities providing services. It will increase the cost to the school providing the services. It will increase the cost of law enforcement. It will increase the cost of electric utilities. It will increase the cost for the sewage disposal facilities. All of those will be increased because don't think for one slight minute, ladies and gentlemen, that the people who move into those suburban