

March 19, 1980

LB 1002

SENATOR SCHMIT: I would like to have the Clerk read the Lewis amendment again. I am not quite familiar with it. I did hear it. I believe he was serious. Would you read the Lewis amendment for me, please?

CLERK: (Reread the Lewis amendment as found on page 1308 of the Journal.)

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well I believe, Senator Lewis, that you certainly did not mean any recreational purpose. You know I might come down there and decide to build a pool hall and attempt to provide some recreation. I might want to open a bowling alley. If you will narrow that amendment down, Senator, to provide that those funds shall be expended in the urban areas for water development projects, I will go along with you. I will go along with you because I can tell you very frankly that there are a great number of projects that can be built in the urban areas, need to be built in the urban areas, that will still provide for flood control and development purposes and I have no concern about the fact that some of those areas are going to be built before others are going to be built. Given the present membership of the Budget Committee and the inclination we have toward concentration of funds in urban areas, I would guess that would probably happen anyway and since we just kind of ride along like the tail on the dog, we are not really going to hamper ourselves any. So, Mr. President, maybe, I would like to ask Senator Lewis a question, if he would yield, please. Would you amend that amendment to provide that the funds shall be spent for the development of water projects in the urban areas and....

SENATOR LEWIS: For recreational purposes?

SENATOR SCHMIT: You can swim in them, you can boat on them, you can water ski on them. They are still going to stop the flooding.

SENATOR LEWIS: You got it.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Then, Mr. President, I support the amendment offered by Senator Lewis and I ask the body to support it because I know this, that if we build those projects in those urban areas, in another year we will come along and we can build some projects maybe out in the sandhills where Senator Lamb lives. I learned a long time ago as Senator Carpenter said, take a half a loaf when you can get a half a loaf. If you can't get a half a loaf, take a quarter. If you can't get a quarter, take a slice. If you can't take the slice, take the crumb. We will take the crumbs and come back next year and try to get a slice or maybe even a quarter of the loaf. I support the Lewis amendment as he explained it.