

a division of Wheat Development in the Department of Agriculture. The present members of the Nebraska Wheat Development, Utilization and Marketing Committee would serve as members of the initial wheat board until their respective terms are expired. #2, the members of the board would be appointed by the Governor. The Governor is encouraged to consult with the growers and Wheat Association members regarding their candidates for appointment but is not required, of course, to follow those recommendations. The wheat board may appoint and fix the salary of the Executive Director and then his or her powers are enumerated under Section 31 of the amendments. Excise tax is to be set at a limit not to exceed ten mills per bushel. The Board's Executive Director would have the responsibility to relate to the Nebraska Wheat Development, Utilization and Marketing Board. The board would limit its activities to cooperation and contracts with the Department of Agriculture and other state and local or national organizations. All records, documents, reports, surveys, files, furniture, equipment, et cetera of the Wheat Division of the Department would then be assigned and delivered to the board. Section 41 to 54 relates to the Nebraska Corn Resources Act. Most of these sections amending also existing law make the acts compatible with the wheat and with the sorghum act. The board may appoint and fix the salary of the Executive Director. His or her duties are outlined in Section 45. A referendum would be held only to determine whether the corn program shall continue. There would not be any referendum to determine whether or not the board should have an elected board or an appointed board. In the past we allowed that if the members chose after a period of time they could have an elected board rather than an appointed board. This makes the board appointments compatible with sorghum and with wheat. The board may contract with the Department of Agriculture, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Nebraska, other state or local, national organizations, the same as for the other two boards. Any records, documents, reports, files, et cetera that they have to be transferred to the board. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, since the time I came into this body we have enacted a number of bills relative to checkoff programs. The wheat checkoff program had started prior to the time that I became a member of this body. Under that provision the Wheat Commission was a division of the Department of Agriculture. It has functioned that way since it began. The corn checkoff board and the soybean checkoff board are separate agencies of the Department of Agriculture. At the present time, however, the Department of Administrative Services has not given the corn checkoff board a voucher number, so to speak,