

April 13, 1981

LB 11

speak to the Maresh amendment?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, at this point I would oppose the Maresh amendments. I believe as I outlined the committee amendments, they do the job in a clean and complete way. They establish uniformity among the various divisions. They provide for accountability. They provide for a referendum to allow for the growers to throw the program out if they don't like it but they require everyone who does produce to participate as long as there is a program. I think we recognize that it is impossible, it is absolutely impossible to provide any kind of a budget from which to work unless you know that what your budget will be. I think that to try for an executive director or a board to contract for a research contract, for example, with the University of Nebraska and say, well, we will draw this contract and it is going to cost a hundred thousand dollars and we will carry it out providing we get the funds from the checkoff program. I don't think you can operate a program that way. I don't think you can budget a family, I don't think you can budget a business, I don't think even government can budget a promotion agency that way and I think it is incompatible with the provisions we have made in the past. I recognize some of the concerns expressed by Senator Maresh and I regret that I did not introduce a separate bill at the time it was introduced but I did know that we was going to introduce a bill and did not see any need for a duplicate introduction of bills. I would hope that he would not pursue his amendments. I ask you to reject the Maresh amendments to the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: Senator Maresh, will you close on your amendment to the committee amendment?

SENATOR MARESH: I guess that wasn't really, Mr. President, that wasn't really opposition to the amendment. He was clarifying what the bill does, the amendments do, and if we are going to establish separate entities, I think they might as well be under a certain name. So I move that the amendment be adopted.

PRESIDENT: The motion then is the adoption of the Maresh amendment to the committee amendment on LB 11. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? We are voting on the Maresh amendment to the committee amendment. I am going to call the vote unless somebody...Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: A Call of the House, please.