April 13, 1981

the Nebraska to the Nebraska Corn Resources Act. All property rights, contracts, obligations, and choses in action of any kind held by or belonging to the Department of Agriculture in connection with Chapter 2, article 36, existing prior to the effective date of this section, shall be transferred to, assumed, and carried out by the board." So we see that there is no more and there no longer will be a connection with the Agriculture Department. Even all these agencies will have their own motor vehicles according to the act and I think something that Senator Schmit hasn't brought out which I don't oppose is the doubling of the wheat tax. I don't think Senator Schmit referred to that but that is one of the provisions in this which didn't have a public hearing to let the wheat growers know that their tax has been doubled. I oppose the white copy. I hope we can go back to the green copy and then, Senator Schmit, if you want to do some amending on the wheat, with the wheat board, to give them more flexibility to be more like the soybean and the corn boards, I would work with you. In fact I have amendments drafted to the green copy. I think probably they are tied too closely with the Agriculture Department and I would go along with giving them a little more leeway such as the corn and soybean people have. Relative to the corn checkoff board and the soyhean checkoff board, I have letters from them stating that they do not wish to change the arrangement they have with the Ag Department and they are concerned that by moving out from the Ag Department, this will increase the cost of maintaining their offices and they don't want This letter, signed by the Corn Marketing Board says, this. "Dear Senator Schmit: For purchase of record I would like to advise the Agriculture Committee that the Nebraska Corn Development, Utilization, and Marketing Board is satisfied with ou: working relationship with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture. We do not want to see our legislation changed to jeopardize this relationship. They are presently contracting for fee collection personnel and office space within the Department of Agriculture. The board feels this contractual agreement is the most efficient method in keeping our administrative costs at a minimum." And the soybear. people state about the same thing. Although they aren't affected by this act, they are concerned that by splitting the wheat and the corn people and the wheat people from the Ag Department, they will increase their cost. The letter states, "The Nebraska Soybean Association urges your close attention to the issues surrounding LB 11 on commodity checkoff legislation. This association representing Nebraska soybean producers adopted the following resolution at our recent annual meeting", and this is dated March 20th, "Resolve that the Nebraska Soybean Association would be opposed to any change and any of the checkoff legislation that would