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LB 487A

for a purpose. The boards are perfectly capable of conducting the business that should be under their jurisdiction. If they want to contribute or work with the Department of Agriculture or with any of the groups that are...The Old West Region, for instance, that you mentioned of Senator George...that is fine, but I don't think that they ought to be compelled to do this. I don't believe that was the intent when they were started and I think generally they are doing a good work, and while the corn program is relatively new and the milo program is certainly new, let's give them a chance to operate and see what they can do. I know it sounds good and it would be a way to get funding for the Department of Agriculture to do some of the things that they want to do but I oppose the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Warner, you may close on your amendment to the amendment.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, a couple of things, first, Senator George has been mentioned a couple of times.

PRESIDENT: (Gavel) We can hardly hear up here. I wish you would give Senator Warner a little attention.

SENATOR WARNER: I do, too. Thank you, Mr. President. Senator George has been mentioned. I would just for the record clear up that he is attached to the Department of Economic Development, not the Ag Department. It is a different program. I am, and also I am a little surprised to hear that they don't need additional funds for the export activity because the request was for \$715,000 and we only gave them \$550,000. I kind of wonder what the request was for all that money in the first place if now all of a sudden they say they have got more than they need for this activity throughout state government. But aside from those two issues, on the merit, I firmly believe that it is appropriate, that the Department of Ag is coordinating for much of this activity and I think that it is appropriate that the Legislature indicate that some of these checkoff programs may, it is not mandatory, may contribute. It is mandatory in the sense that the intent of the Legislature ought to be followed but we all know that it is not always done but I think it is very appropriate that a portion of those funds come from the checkoff programs. Secondly, LB 11 did say that the Wheat Development Board shall be the agency for the development but it does not say that they shall have their own budget outside...administer their own budget. That part is still permissive and that there is no reason to change at this time. So I think it is inappropriate to make the amendment