

SENATOR NICHOL: I have four lights on. I don't think any of you wish to speak to the amendment necessarily. If you do please indicate so. We are now voting on the Schmit amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Record the vote please. Senator Schmit, for what reason do you arise?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Does it require 30 votes to add that? Twenty-five, thank you.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President.

SENATOR NICHOL: The Schmit amendment is adopted. Senator Newell, you are next on the agenda. Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, I recognize the concern of the individuals that brought this bill to our attention especially when they live in the area of this particular highway that they would like to see upgraded. I would like to point out, however, that that is not the only highway in the State of Nebraska that is in need of considerable upgrading and I recognize the need for north and south highways in the State of Nebraska and there are several of those out in my district that need upgraded and there are several areas in this state that don't even have a north/south highway first of all. But it seems to me that what we are doing here is, and I am surprised at some of my... our good conservatives colleagues are attempting to go in this direction for this particular area of their concern although I also noticed in the bill it doesn't specify which highway they're going to get the dollars on so I suppose that if once we get the dollars there we can all make a mad dash down to the Department of Roads and try to get our bid in and see if we can't get in our area instead but what we are doing is putting the State of Nebraska in the position of borrowing money. It is that simple and Senator Schmit pointed out that in the past that hasn't been too popular. If you will look at what has happened to some other states in this nation you will find out why that Nebraska probably has been pretty wise to not be too eager to get in the situation of that nature. There is other states in this nation as we all know that are in debt for millions and millions and millions of dollars until their interest rates are more than we're operating on almost. Now I don't think that is good business to start us in that direction. As a farmer that has signed more than my share of notes I know one thing. It is a heck of a lot easier to sign that note than it is to pay it off later on and I'm telling you we're going to have to pay these off and when we have to start paying them off at the expense of upgrading highways later on down the road, somebody is liable to look at this