

but I think it is just a dangerous situation to take a grain combine and drive it great distances down a highway with a thirty foot platform. That takes up the whole road and I know Senator Schmit disagrees with this but we simply are going to have to take those platforms off when we move them great distances. I think that is a very legitimate concern. Now, Senator Schmit, the reason I brought this bill in, and I would ask you to listen to this carefully. The reason I brought this bill in is because the state patrol during wheat harvest in the summer of 1980 came into Box Butte County and told people that they couldn't move combines with twenty-four foot headers down the highway at all because they interpreted it, the current statute, the current law, as saying that we could not move those combines at all and that construction was one that I disagreed with but it is one which the state patrol believed at that time and there is a legitimate conflict in the statutes which this bill resolves. Now at the time we decided to resolve that conflict we took a look at how other states handle this particular situation. If you look at Kansas, if you look at Texas, Oklahoma or Montana you will find very similar provisions to the twenty-five mile limit that we have here. All those states require a lighted vehicle or some kind of a flag vehicle in front of a combine above a certain width, with a platform above a certain width and all of them place distance restrictions at that rate. I just think it is a dangerous situation to have a combine that takes up the whole road driving long distances and if you are going to go more than twenty-five miles I don't think it is too great an inconvenience to have you take the header off, put it on a trailer and have it pulled to the next location. I would urge you to advance LB 417.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Senator Cullan, I recognize your farming interests and your background but I would just like to call attention to this body also to the fact there is a distinct difference between agricultural operations in eastern Nebraska and western Nebraska and the distances of course are great out there but the problems that you have from transporting machinery are considerably less because of the less density of the population. I guess I would have to disagree because I don't believe that farmers are going to blatantly endanger their own lives or the lives of anyone else moving or transporting equipment. You are not going to take a valuable piece of equipment down the road and endanger someone else's life. I think the concern for life certainly transcends any concern for the equipment or the inconvenience and many of us have moved equipment great distances and there are times