

to us by Commissioner Eric Rasmussen that wanted to clarify a section as it relates to officers, partners or agents of partnerships or corporations. We have had a couple of situations come up that...where the corporation might have been in violation of the Grain Dealers Act but it is difficult to prosecute them under current law because it is vague and we're trying to make sure that this clarifies that situation. There has been some questions of whether this is the proper language to use. The committee talked about that and we decided that we would send the bill to the floor at this time and continue to check into whether we can tighten the language. But it should be relatively noncontroversial. Only a couple of situations have arisen that has caused the Public Service Commission some concern and this is an attempt to clarify that situation for the Public Service Commission.

PRESIDENT: The question is the advancement of the bill. Senator Owen Elmer's light came on, excuse me. Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. President, and members, Senator Rod Johnson, I wonder if we might answer a question to clarify and put in the record the question that was brought before the committee. The question was when we changed it to...in the last portion of the bill on page 35 where it amends Section 75-909, it adds, besides any person, "any partner, officer or agent of any person," who would violate the grain storage act would be liable for prosecution. Is it...it's the understanding of the committee that this would apply only to individuals who knowingly and willingly participated in a violation. Is that true, Senator Johnson?

PRESIDENT: (Gavel.) Ladies and gentlemen, let's hold it down so we can hear the response. Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, the answer is, yes, the Public Service is not interested in prosecuting innocent parties, only interested in those individuals on a board or as a partner in a corporation or partnership that might have knowingly participated in violating the law. And I appreciate Senator Elmer bringing that up. I failed to mention that in my opening.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Senator Johnson. Nothing further.

PRESIDENT: Senator Rod Johnson, did you wish to close? The