

March 8, 1989

LB 132, 587

then have it come back the next year as a reimbursement back to that fund. This would create a cash fund, it would be easier to plan. Their workload is growing in this area, and this simply creates that cash fund to make it more self-sustaining. Simplifies the bookkeeping.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Any further discussion? If not, the question is the advancement of the bill. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 132.

PRESIDENT: LB 132 is advanced. LE 587.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 587 was a bill that was introduced by Senators Schmit, Baack, Weihing, Robak, Morrissey and Wehrbein. (Read.) The bill was introduced on January 18 of this year, Mr. President. At that time it was referred to the Natural Resources for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments pending by the Natural Resources Committee.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit, you want to take the amendments first, or the bill first?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, I would take the committee amendments at this time and explain them.

PRESIDENT: (Gavel.) Could we please have it quieter so we can hear the speakers. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHMIT: The committee amendments are very simple. They...The original language of the statute calls for board members of the Ethanol Authority to be drawn from the membership of the corn, wheat and sorghum check-off board. It was felt by a number of the farm organizations and the farmers who came before us that this ought to be less restrictive and that any individual who is a grower of one of those commodities ought to be available for appointment to that board. It also provides a method whereby the candidates for appointment to the board may place their names on the candidacy list by getting at least 50 growers from each...from any crop to sign a petition on their behalf. This is consistent with the method whereby those appointments are made to some of the other boards, and I think