

it does provide for a more broad representation on the Ethanol Authority Board. I move for the adoption of the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: Any discussion on the committee amendments? If not, the question is the adoption of the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. We're voting on the committee amendments. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Clerk, you have an amendment? Senator Schmit, did you wish to explain the bill briefly before we take up the amendments?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, I believe I should...

PRESIDENT: All right.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...Mr. President and members, not only for the enlightenment of Senator Haberman, who wants to amend the bill somewhat, but also because I think I owe it to all the rest of you. It has been 18 years since I brought the first bill to this body that was the forerunner of what has become an ethanol industry here in the State of Nebraska. I want to remind some of you that when that bill was first presented, LB 776 in 1971, the idea that there would ever be an ethanol industry was widely ridiculed. It was also emphasized by the petroleum industry that there would never be such an item for sale as unleaded gasoline, that that was a figment of the imagination. They also said that, if Schmit's bill became law, it would raise the price of gasoline by 3 cents a gallon and the public would never stand for it. At that time I was paying 29 cents for a gallon of gasoline delivered to the farm, tax included. We all know what has happened since that time. The purpose of the bill, 587, is consistent with a promise that I made a number...to a number of individuals in the Legislature and to then Governor Kerrey when LB 1230 was enacted into law several years ago, that is that I was not opposed to broadening the responsibility of the Ethanol Authority to include the utilization of the by-products from the generation process of distillation and also, in fact, maybe even to encourage the development of industry that might have...add this by-product, the alcohol itself. For example, Senator Hefner has LB 325, a bill which is designed to encourage the