

legislative representative to the compact. Mr. Jim Roberts, whom many of you know, is the Governor's appointee to the compact. We have, I believe, a good agenda. We have worked, I believe, well together and I believe we will be able to continue that agenda in the years to come. I understand Senator Warner has an amendment to this amendment, which I do not object to. I believe that we will see additional participation by other states. I have testified in support of compact legislation in other states. To be very frank with you, it has been embroiled, in some instances, in partisan controversy, and as a result has not been successful in several of our neighboring states. I do believe that problem will be overcome some time in the future and we will see increased interest. More than anything I want to emphasize that quality grain is a major goal of this compact, improve the quality of our shipments, improve the quality of the grain available for domestic use, improve transportation services, and improve our image in many other areas. Those goals remain the same. I believe we have made substantial inroads. I believe this is the first time, the first time in history that there has ever been a shipment of what we call super clean or high quality grain to a foreign country that was managed through the Nebraska Wheat Board and the grain compact, and I believe it's the first time it's ever happened in industry. I think it's something which shows that there is a demand out there and that we can fill that demand. I would hope that we would be able to continue our work. The Appropriations Committee requested from the Attorney General not an opinion but an advisory letter, I guess, as to whether or not the compact is legal because of the failure of Wyoming to put their money in the compact. There is a letter which Senator Warner, I believe, may have handed out, I have a copy. And the indication, as I read it, and Senator Warner will no doubt comment on it, is that if the Legislature appropriates the 50,000, that is an indication that we still support membership in the compact. The Governor placed the money in her budget. The Appropriations Committee chose to have the issue discussed on the floor...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...and it is certainly agreeable with me. I have no qualms whatsoever about that approach. I believe it ought to be discussed, and we ought to be able to stand here and defend the work and defend the situation, if we expect it to be funded. I have every confidence that it was a good investment and that it will continue to be a good investment. I would say