

Senator Schmit.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Mr. President, and members of the body, my problem with the legislation was also the 20 percent aromatic content portion of the bill. The rest of the legislation I have got no problem with. But I just have a problem, Senator Schmit, of us having a 20 percent requirement when everybody around us or the rest across the country are at different percentages, such as, 30 percent in 1992 according to the feds, and the 28 percent in '93, and 25 percent in '94. This puts us out of step with the rest of the world, the rest of the country, at least, and the fact that we, then, would be in a position of where everyone that is a blender would have to put a special blend together for Nebraska. And separate...keep it separate from other blends for the rest of the United States, and I don't see the blenders or the producers, for example, keeping separate tanks, for example, separate lines, separate everything for Nebraska when the requirements for the rest of the United States are different. It is for that reason, for example, that I voted no, and I was wondering if Senator Schmit would respond to that in the balance of the time. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you, Senator Goodrich. I will be glad to respond and you have a valid concern. As I said earlier in response to Senator Hefner's question and as I was going to respond to Senator Owen Elmer's question, if that becomes a real problem, it can be changed next year. I believe it is important that Nebraskans continue to take a leadership role in establishing standards. If it were not for the fact that Nebraska took this role 20 years ago...

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit, I am going to have to interrupt you again. (Gavel.) Please. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you, Mr. President. It is difficult enough to understand me when I mumble through these without having competition. But anyway, I just want to say this. There would not be an ethanol industry in the United States today had it not been for Nebraska. It is unfortunate that there is a difference of opinion between some of us, particularly myself, and the existing Nebraska Ethanol Authority. Let me explain this. A great portion of that difference of opinion is due to the fact that you have eight brand new members on the board, with less than a year of service on that board. They have not gone through the war, so to speak, that I have gone through for