

maybe that actually happened. So here we did, we passed over my objections, a bill last year, 1124, which made production payments for existing production, which increased the cost of that plant to Nebraska institutions. When we passed LB 1230 in 1986, I want you to listen carefully, we had adjourned and Governor Kerrey called myself and some of the wheat growers and one or two corn growers who were meeting with us, and he said, Loran, give me some reasons why I should sign that bill. And I said, we want to put steel in the ground, we want to build plants. He said we have seen enough scandal at the federal level and other areas where monies are made available like this. He said it usually attracts thieves. This big money will attract high-class, high-quality thieves, and he said, what assurance do you have to me that if I sign the bill that you are going to watch that the money is not stolen from the guys who contributed.

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Time.

**SENATOR SCHMIT:** I hope I can continue, Mr. President.

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Senator Lynch. Probably not, no. Senator Wehrbein.

**SENATOR WEHRBEIN:** Yes, Mr. President, members, I support Senator Johnson's amendment. This is an effort to work together with several issues that are coming up, and this bill tends to be a little bit confusing as we work through it. Hopefully, most of this has been resolved although I know it is going to be kind of hard to explain as we go along and try to see how these production credits, incentives, versus the equity positions carry through. But I simply want to say I support that, and in this particular bill is a way to fund this through the checkoff. I know this isn't very well received by many because they are uncertain as to whether we are going to need this money at this time, that we have had a lot of pie in the sky proposals in the past, and not very many of them have come to fruition at this point. I do think that there are some that are nearly imminent. In fact I know of one that was of particular interest to me and I know of some others that are, and I think it is important that we try to, if we keep this in place at this point, to provide some security into the future or at least some promise into the future that Nebraska intends to keep its promise in supporting and encouraging the production of ethanol. The issue of length is important to me and I will be waiting to see if the amendment