

March 29, 1976

PRESIDENT: Vince, what is next?

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 823 and Senator Schmit offers a nine page amendment to it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, the amendment to LB 823 was placed on your desk and I believe the amendment to LB 821 was also, but the amendment to 823 sets out and identifies the standards for smoke emission for diesel powered vehicles. The amendment was offered to the Legislature as a bill. The Committee discussed it at some length and there was no one that came before the Ag Committee and supported the bill. After the Committee killed the bill, we did hear from people in industry that felt that they would like to have the bill so I asked them to prepare an amendment. I visited with Senator Warner. He has no objection to the amendment to my knowledge and I would ask you to adopt the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion? The question is the adoption...Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask Senator Schmit a question. Senator Schmit, just explain what all these amendments or this long amendment that you have got is going to do to farm tractors to trucks, on any diesel burning in the state, including the railroads?

SENATOR SCHMIT: I will tell you what, Senator Keyes, it does not do anything to the farm tractors. It does not bring the farm tractors under the provision. It does refer to diesel powered trucks, and only trucks. The motor carriers approve of the amendment. The amendments as adopted under this proposal would provide for less stringent requirements for the emission of noise and smoke from diesel powered trucks than is the present standard and the industry supports it and the Environmental Control, the Department of Environmental Control has agreed with industry on the amendments and there is no problem.

SENATOR KEYES: In other words, you had no hearing on this. This is just agreement between those two organizations. It is good for the state whether we have a hearing on it or not.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Senator Keyes, we had a hearing and there was no interest at the hearing. I did have one letter from Mr. Jim Preston who represents the Motor Carriers and he supported the bill. At the time, the Committee felt perhaps it was not necessary. Then after we killed the bill, we got all kinds of comment. At least I did in reference to including the amendment because the amendment as we offer here or the original bill would have allowed less stringent