

May 16, 1973

dollar wasn't worth anything and they were the big consumers of gold at Zurich yesterday so anything that we can do to cut down on the consumption of fuel oil in the Air Force and in the unnecessary parts of our government and deflate or put it back into midwestern United States and that includes Nebraska, is probably the best thing we can do so I certainly would support anything that Senator Burbach, the Governor of this State, our Congressmen and Senators or anybody else can do to see that we get a flow of oil in here so that we have something to raise a crop with and after we get it raised, I would like to be able to transport it to the East Coast or the West Coast. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nore, then Senator Schmit, Maresh, Stull and Stahmer.

SENATOR NORE: Mr. President and fellow Members. There's something awfully peculiar about this shortage. Now this morning I heard from the Department of Agriculture on TV that we're going to have an all time production of soy beans, we're going to meet all foreign demand, all domestic demand, we're going to have enough corn for everyone in the world. Now what's going to happen to the farm price? All I can read into this is that the agribusiness will get richer and the farmer will get poorer because of bankrupt prices due to over production. The whole program will eventually break the backs of the farmer and I, I still think this, this energy shortage is a planned shortage that, that, the main purpose is to get the price of energy up.

PRESIDENT: Alright, Senator Schmit. Still discussing Legislative Resolution No. 84.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, Members of the Legislature. I agree with the resolution. I agree with what has been said previously. I'd like to call attention to the fact that several years ago Senator Burbach, Senator Orme, Senator Lewis and myself introduced LB 776 which provided for research into the use of grain alcohol as a motor fuel. Today we see the necessity for that, and I know there are members of this body who do not agree with me that it's a proper use but at that time we were told that we couldn't afford the slight increase in the cost, about .3¢ a gallon that would result. Now we see there are cost indications that the cost of motor fuel will reach .50¢, .75¢ maybe \$1 a gallon. I think that this calls for a renewed effort on the part of the State of Nebraska to implement the gasahol program which is presently being operated with 1/8th of a cent gas tax and I would like to ask Senator Burbach if he has any objection to an amendment to this resolution to include that in the resolution.

PRESIDENT: Senator Burbach, do you care to respond?

SENATOR BURBACH: Senator Schmit, I certainly would welcome this addition because we are concerned and this committee--the members of the--the introducers of the bill, were looking into the future at that time. We did not have a crystal ball, any of the members of that committee or those members on the floor who supported and, and passed LB 776, did not have a crystal ball but at the same time, this was extremely an important piece of legislation and it is much more important today. Had we went full speed ahead at that time, we would have a plant here operating and I think it would be a tremendous asset to this resolution if you were to draft another section and add it and bring it to this body.