

March 15, 1979

LB 190

problem in some fashion, I think the magnitude of the issue merits its being brought on the floor of the Legislature. There are farmers like Senator Schmit, Senator Lamb, Senator Burrows, and others who are in the operation, who have a great amount of information based on knowledge personally derived from study, from that gotten from acquaintances and others, but there are people in this body, myself included, who have no experience with farming, who have no knowledge of farming, except that every time I go to the store you gouging farmers make me pay too much for a loaf of bread, Senator Schmit, too much for a pound of hamburger, Senator Lamb, and Senator Burrows, too much for a can of corn. Now, if you're not responsible, I want to know who is. But from everything that I hear, your income went up forty-six percent. You went to the Capitol and did more than three million dollars worth of damage. While you assaulted the police, you caused disorders that brought the entire name of farming into disrepute throughout the civilized world. A bill such as this, would give an opportunity, I think, for others in this body to be informed not only of this precise issue addressed by the bill, but other matters related to farming. I don't know of any other bill that is on the burner, so to speak, that would afford this opportunity. I want to see the bill out here. I want to hear discussion on the merits of the bill, and not just the limited discussion which has occurred in opposition to it. I'm going to support bringing it out here, and even with the little information and knowledge that I have on the subject, I'm certain some things would have to be done with it, and Senator Burrows is talking about some amendments already. I'm going to vote to bring the bill out here. I don't know what my ultimate position will be, because I have no way of knowing ultimately what form the bill will take. But I hope those of you who are farmers, or who have an interest in farming, will give those of us who don't know that much and are willing to acknowledge it, the opportunity to get that information, and I'll tell you something else, with the press of affairs which is on each one of us while the Legislature is in session, I doubt that many will take the time to just read for the purposes of obtaining information. It's similar to the way the judicial system operates. They want to deal not with advisory opinions, but with legitimate issues that are subjects of real controversy, so when a matter is before the Legislature, to be voted up or voted down, I think we may get more substantial information. We may have opinions which are a bit better thought out than that information and those opinions which would occur if we were just saying in the corridor or someplace else....

PRESIDENT: One minute, Senator Chambers.