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LB 14

SENATOR COPE: Senator Nichol, there seems to be just so much controversy on this issue, more than on any other checkoffs that we have had I believe, and they just seem to be, well, I guess I want to ask, do you think these amendments that you are offering now are going to or have they made any closer working relationship between the two factions in this group?

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Cope, I very much think so and not necessarily just these amendments but the committee amendments which I will take up next more so allay the fears of those who have been opposing the bill I feel. For example, we will be taking up in the next amendments the one that provides that an election will be held first before we even embark on this journey to determine whether or not we even have this dry edible bean commission. Yes. The answer to your question is yes.

SENATOR COPE: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Nichol just answered the question from Senator Cope which I think is important and that is that the committee amendments require that there be a referendum before the checkoff becomes operative in the first place so the bean growers will have an opportunity to decide whether or not they want the program and I believe that is the provision which makes this bill with its amendments workable and satisfactory.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Simon.

SENATOR SIMON: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, normally I wouldn't get very involved in these issues since we don't have a large demand in my district as far as bean growers. I don't even think we have any bean growers but, Senator Nichol, I guess I do have a couple of questions because I find it kind of interesting the continuity of some of the debate on the floor of the Legislature. I know that you have always been one who has always said, no, we don't need another agency, we don't need another checkoff system, we don't need another this, we don't need another that, until it comes to a particular bill that you introduce out in your district. I guess the question is why do we have to have another checkoff system? Why do we have to have, we have got one for beans, we have got one for corn, we have got one for wheat, we have got one for this, we have got