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LB 547

twenty-one or twenty-two days last session, but because of the pressure and the priority system it was never acted upon. It is a noncontroversial bill, but representatives of the food industry from the City of Omaha have asked that we reintroduce the bill. I did contact the Department prior to the deadline for introduction and at that time they said they had not been contacted by the industry. Later on the industry did come to them and ask that the bill be introduced. So we drew the bill. It has been recommended by the committee that we introduce it, and I now ask that you consider its introduction.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Senator Schmit, I would like to ask one quick question.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit, will you respond?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes.

SENATOR NEWELL: I just read from your statement of intent that this bill would consolidate all statutes relating to food service vending, processing, storage, salvage, retail food in Nebraska into the Nebraska Pure Food Act and to increase fees. Now the key and operative word there is "to increase fees", and I am just curious, how do you increase fees in a noncontroversial manner?

SENATOR SCHMIT: The industry, Senator Newell, which is heavily represented from your part of the state has agreed to the increase in fees and it increases the fee from, for example, for a license from \$15 to \$35 but it consolidates the licenses into a single license and does not indicate as large an increase as you would think.

SENATOR NEWELL: Senator Schmit, I...that industry is to a large extent from my district and I haven't had any contact from them on this issue and I guess I am totally unaware of it at this point and so I am going to trust you and vote for your proposal but I sure hope that my faith is well placed.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion on the motion to introduce a new bill by the Agriculture Committee? If not, Senator Schmit, do you have any closing on your motion? No closing. The question before the House is the introduction of the new bill by the Agriculture Committee. This will require 30 votes. All those in favor vote aye,