

time going to Washington to try to make the decision makers understand the severity of our problems in rural America. And now to suddenly say that we are only going to ask the President to carefully consider a measure that has been passed in the United States Senate with bipartisan support, I might add, to help alleviate some of those credit problems, to help alleviate some of the agricultural disaster that is happening...the crisis that is happening right now, and then for us to say, well, we really don't care whether he signs it or not, we just want him to consider it, we really don't care if he changes his mind, I think that, as Senator Beutler put it, is nonsense. It seems to me that this body had ought to in a bipartisan effort the same as the United States Senate did, take the stand and take the position that we have got a problem in rural America and we have got a problem in rural Nebraska and it is time that we fessed up to it and faced up to it and even if that means telling our President that perhaps he might be wrong in his thinking right now on this issue, that even the Republicans and Democrats and Independents all across this state and within this body had ought to stand up and recognize that it is far past partisan politics and instead is a matter of what is good for rural America and in the end what is good for all of America. I urge you to reject the DeCamp amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, again urging you to reject the DeCamp amendment. I also wanted to point out that the House amendment, Senate amendments that are being approved address one of the major problems that Senator Schmit pointed out and that was it authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to hire additional staff to process loan applications. One of the problems that had been mentioned by Senator Schmit is the fact that out in many of the rural areas the applications are sitting there in a big pile and they just can't process them through. And under this particular amendment, there would be additional staff hired authorized to be hired which would be allocated to states based on the number of loan applications unprocessed as of the date of the act. So it is very important that we get those people out there, just as a mechanical matter to get those people out there to process the applications in many areas of this state. And again, I would urge you to say to the Congress,