

would stand and be recognized, we'd like to welcome you this morning. Thank you for coming down. You students of government might like to know that this morning we are engaged in what is called consent calendar consideration where relatively noncontroversial bills are up for discussion, with the debate to not exceed 15 minutes on any one bill. Next we take up LB 346.

CLERK: Mr. President, 346, offered by Senators Schmit and Vard Johnson. (Read title.) The bill was read on January 17, referred to the Revenue Committee, advanced to General File, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Loran Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, LB 346 makes the change in the amount of the discount that is available for ethanol blended fuels, reduces that discount from five cents to three cents beginning January 1, 1985. It further requires a total discontinuance of the tax credit beginning January 1, 1983 (sic). I want to say that I have introduced this bill after very much deep consideration. I would have to say that there are people within the industry who feel that it is premature. I would have to add that I have my own reservations about the facts that at the present time agriculture is in a devastated financial position. I'd also like to say, however, that in fairness to the Nebraska Legislature that had the balance of the country followed the leadership of the Nebraska Legislature in 1971, when we enacted...

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit...

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...legislation...yes.

PRESIDENT: The Chair would like to interrupt to announce that some members did not hear me announce earlier that this bill is under consideration this morning by a late addition to the agenda by the Speaker. So we are considering now LB 346. Thank you, Senator.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you very much, Mr. President. I would like to also add that I did not request the bill be added. Right, Mr. Speaker? I think there are interests here probably greater than mine that would like to see this