

let me tell you something, ladies and gentlemen, especially my fellow farmers, ask yourself what kind of shape you're in today. Do you need some help? You've been coming to this Legislature time after time, especially to our urban friends and saying, give us a break on interest, give us a break on taxes, give us a break on this, a break on that. Well, it's about time we take the money we have, the money we assessed ourselves and we give ourselves a break and we hire some professional people and we do some things right. I don't ordinarily get this worked up, but I have reached the point where I have watched farmers every night when I go home. I speak to farmers who are going broke.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: A good friend of mine is selling out today, one of the best farmers, the best cattle feeders I ever knew. Oh, yes, my friends in the farm organizations are going to say, too bad about my old friend, but where were they when he should have had a price for his production? I'm not disputing the good intentions of my opposition. Senator Warner has been here longer than I have and he is more knowledgeable, but I know that Senator Warner has many people who come before the Appropriations Committee who are tax supported and they are there and I didn't have any chance of getting my taxes back. I pay school tax, real estate tax, personal tax, the whole works. I have no choice, I pay it. Many times those individuals do not represent my point of view, but they represent a point of view.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Time is up.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Sometimes they do represent my point of view. I support the amendment. I support the bill and I hope you will do also.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Warner, then Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR WARNER: Again, Mr. President, there are a number of things that I want to comment on. Number one, there is something in excess of \$5 million in this year's budget, in excess of \$5 million for checkoff funds. So 25 percent says that we're authorizing over \$1,250,000 per year to be used for lobbying and that is a lot of money even for the Appropriations Committee. Number two, it is not voluntary.