

present time. Secondly, legally they cannot use checkoff money to go back to Washington now and talk and even testify. They have to do it under their own funds. That brings up a similar deal. There are different sections of agriculture in the country today, Senator Nelson, that aren't complaining about the price and some of these, if you look into them, they are the ones that spend a definite large portion of their monies to influence legislation. They have good lobbyists, the milk people, tobacco people, vegetable people, all the way through. And I feel that one other thing I might add is this legislative body is the one that set up the accountability practice and procedures that these checkoff people do have. Most of them are elected through...they have to have a minimum of fifty signed petitions and if they are appointed by the Governor, go there. That is one thing I seriously think we could look at for next year to introduce to have a little more accountability to put into the checkoff boards and I would be very much in favor of doing that or working with you to do that.

PRESIDENT: There is one minute of time left, Senator.

SENATOR NELSON: I would be glad to work with some restrictions and so on for accountability, again, Senator Vickers, for a refund and if the board was able to put together, well, I guess what do I have to say, something that if someone wanted their money back, it had to be refunded, they had to be accountability and also representation on this board that would be maybe voted, a checks and a balances, then I could very much work for it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit, I have you down for a second time. There are others to speak. Do you wish to speak now? Very well.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, I would, Mr. President. First of all, Mr. President, and fellow members, I want to point out something. We all spent I think about six hours yesterday afternoon here on LB 662. I happen to pay real estate taxes in both Class I districts and Class III's. I think we all know where both groups are coming from. The Class I's don't want it, the Class III's do. I have been lobbied by both groups. My own tax dollars, you know, Senator Vickers, I am not just financing one side, I am financing both sides. Now that is real magnanimous of me and I didn't have any choice