

Have you all voted? A record vote has been requested. Please record your vote if you wish to vote. Have you all voted? Record the vote, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Read record vote. See pages 2315-16 of the Legislative Journal.) 15 ayes, 24 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT: The amendment fails. Next on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment to the bill is by Senator Schmit. Senator Schmit's amendment is on page 2008.

PRESIDENT: Is Senator Schmit available? Senator Schmit, your amendment is up for discussion. Senator Schmit, you are recognized on your amendment to 722.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the body, more than a dozen years ago this Legislature established a drug abuse control division in the Nebraska Safety Patrol. Since that time a number of members have taken a particular interest in this area and have followed up on it and done perhaps a better job than I did when we started. But one of the provisions of that original legislation was to establish a buy fund whereby the Patrol could use their undercover people to engage in the purchase of drugs to get a conviction of a pusher. This Legislature was very emphatic in stating that we wanted to stamp out the pushers, the people who promoted the use of drugs. This became a very important tool to the Patrol. It originally started out with \$50,000, we raised it to \$100,000. The committee had seen fit to raise it to \$110,000 some time ago, but the incidence of drug abuse is becoming greater. The size of the buys are becoming greater. The Patrol, because I have kept in touch with them over the years, informed me some time ago that their funds for this purpose were depleted. I asked them if they could use additional funds, they said yes they could. We discussed the amount. They did not ask for it specifically, but we...I agreed that I would introduce an amendment to add \$200,000 to this fund. Some of the money turns over and is recovered, but some of it is not. So, as a result, the fund does become depleted. I visited a bit with Senator Warner about this. He has some comments. I don't disagree with those comments, but I believe that this is the most important kind of fund. I'm sorry I did not go before the committee and ask for additional funds at the