

St. Louis last week on the Agricultural Task Force Council of State Government and Legislators and when I did testify in front of the Export-Import Panel which was a six congressmen, six senators and 20 business people throughout the United States and they are developing export-import policies for the United States. Their final report will be due in July of 1986. This was a very high up level group of people. I testified for Nebraska. It was Iowa, Wisconsin, Missouri and Indiana, four of us that testified in front of this panel and that was one of their requests, that Nebraska, if we could do anything at this time would be to get a resolution in on cargo preference and I think most of the other speakers and Rod has told you the details. I hope that you do pass it.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator. The Chair recognizes Senator Haberman. If he is not here we will pass over temporarily to Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DECAMP: Mr. President, I rise to support it but for completely different reasons and those who are sponsoring it, including Senator Nelson, Senator Rod Johnson, a number of the others, I would hope would give a little listen. Cargo preference, cargo preference means simply that our United States maritime unions and shippers cannot compete in the world in terms of rates, that somebody else can do the job cheaper, the same job, and, therefore, in order to protect the workers of the maritime union the United States government says that the goods we sell overseas, the wheat, corn, et cetera, have to be shipped at artificially high levels for shipping costs so that they can subsidize, through agriculture, the maritime unions. The net effect of this protectionism, and that's what it is, protectionism, the net effect is to make our goods which would be competitive otherwise uncompetitive in the world market, so that a bushel of wheat that we might have the best wheat and the lowest price on in the world becomes some of the highest priced wheat and uncompetitive strictly as a result of adding subsidies to a labor union because they, in their wage and hours and their work, cannot compete. It is a lesson that when you use protectionism, ultimately it goes on down the line and hurts everybody. It hurts people who would be competitive and in business otherwise. And I think that if you're going to say you don't want protectionism when you're affected as agricultural producers and exporters, then you shouldn't want protectionism in other