

and be recognized. Thank you for visiting us today. Do you have anything else on the bill, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay. Senator Pappas or Senator Rogers.

SENATOR ROGERS: I move that we advance the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Any further discussion? Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, I know that this is an exercise in futility on my part because I don't think anybody really is listening or really cares. But I think we are making a big mistake. I think we are making a big mistake in that right now what we are going to do is we are going to say, if I've kept track of the amendments correctly, that only the wheat board and the corn board can use up to 25 percent of their funds for lobbying efforts at the federal level. I think by doing that we are setting up some mechanisms whereby various commodity people are being treated considerably different. First of all, we are saying to a wheat producer or a corn producer that up to 25 percent of your check-off dollars, of your funds that you really have not a lot of direct control over since those people on those boards are appointed, that those funds are going to be used regardless of whether you agree with it or not without any ability on your part to get your funds back, or any portion of your funds back. We are also saying, it seems to me, that we think there is a different problem and Senator Schmit alluded to the amount of excess supply of those particular commodities and the difficulties in corn and wheat as a result of that. But I would remind you if that is what we really believe, that it is corn and wheat that is having the problem, then how come is it that the PCAs, the banks and those kinds of folks that are having so much difficulty, the ones that have gone under, are not out in the wheat country? Hows come they are not out in Senator Baack's area? Hows come they are in the cattle producing areas, in Senator Lamb's area, instead? It seems to me we are saying, hey, you know the only people that are having problems here, and, therefore, they ought to have this special treatment, they ought to be able to go back and influence legislation, are corn and wheat farmers and that the rest of the people who are raising sorghum, or soybeans, or cattle, or whatever, are not having a problem and we