

April 8, 1986

LB 1016

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...you would minimize your opposition substantially. I do not know if you have any here. I have not been approached by any of the farmer organizations relative to your amendment. I do not know, with the exception of the aerial applicators and the chemical leaders, I do not know that any single farm organization opposes this amendment. They have always usually been pretty alert if they don't like something. So I do not know if they have any opposition to this. Do you know if there is any opposition to this amendment by the farm organizations?

SENATOR SIECK: Not directly by the farm organizations. I did have a couple farmers talk to me and, of course, after I explained to them what I was doing, they could accept it. I mean, they weren't too worried about it. The musk thistle is a serious problem, as you say. But I was kind of using my own experience with musk thistle and April 15th, if you don't spray it by April 15th, some of that is going to head and you are losing your effectiveness. So, to me, that was important to get people to spray a little earlier. That is really what I am after...

SENATOR SCHMIT: Uh huh.

SENATOR SIECK: ...in order to do an effective job on that particular plant.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Sure. Well, you make a good point. Part of the problem though is this, that a year like this when we have sufficient moisture, the thistle comes along and does very well. If it is a dry spring, the thistle does not come along quite so fast and the period is stretched out a little bit more and I guess I remember when the federal government suspended the use of DDT and I was stuck with thousands of gallons of it. It took me 10 years to find someone that would take it off my hands.

PRESIDENT: Your five minutes is expiring.

SENATOR SCHMIT: It was a chemical that I had purchased legally and I don't want to see the industry, nor farmers, nor business stuck with a supply of chemicals that they have a difficult time to get rid of. I am not going to oppose your bill at this time but I am not wildly enthusiastic, in fact, I am not at all