

the answer is. But I've been trying my best to follow this issue and trying not to box myself into a corner. But we do need something for this economy. We need something to get the ag economy going. LB 1016 certainly was not that proposal. I've seen very few others. But I'm not 100 percent sure how I'm going to vote on Senator Haberman's motion. But this bill certainly puts a lot of us in a situation where we're going to have to weigh the pros and cons, or maybe more so the consequences of passing 1230, and whether or not the benefits for the investment that we make as members of the ag community are worth the benefits in the end that we will receive from the ethanol industry.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, and members, first of all I could make the argument that the amendment is not germane because the amendment pertains not only, Senator Haberman, to the check-off contained in LB 1230, it pertains to all of the check-offs collected. It does not just limit it to that in LB 1230. Secondly, I'm disappointed that Senator Haberman did not speak to me about this amendment because he told me that the amendment that I had proposed would not fly, and that he would be prepared to offer this amendment if it did not fly. It did fly, Senator Rex, it flew well, had no opposition. Therefore I'm a little bit disappointed that he would offer this amendment at this time. I don't really know where you are coming from. Third, I want to point something out, and I hope that you will bear with me because this is probably the last chance we have to do something to help ourselves in the State of Nebraska insofar as agriculture is concerned. I think it is important that farmers make a contribution to this to help themselves. I am a farmer. I don't think there is any one of us here who are not interested in doing something for economic development in Nebraska. But I do not believe it is asking too much to ask the farmer to contribute one-half cent per bushel toward the construction of these plants. As Senator Rod Johnson said, you are darned if you do, and darned if you don't. But I'll tell you one thing, you're going to be darned a lot more if we don't do something that will work this thing out. In 15 years, in 15 years, ladies and gentlemen, we have argued this case on this floor time, after time, after time, after time. Let one member stand up and point out a single time when one of my statements has been proven wrong. I've been right every time. Now that is a boast, but you can't disprove it. We were challenged in 1971, in '72, in '73, in '76. Every year we came up with one of