

April 15, 1986

LR 416, 418

CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of LR 416 as offered by Senator Marsh.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The resolution is adopted. LR 418, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, 418 is offered by Senator Scofield and a number of members. It is found on page 2152 of the Journal.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Scofield, please.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Mr. Speaker and members, you are aware, I'm sure, from the numerous news stories and so forth recently regarding the whole herd buyout and the situation that that has created for the beef industry in the United States, and particularly cattle producers in the State of Nebraska. I brought this resolution before you at the request of cattle producers in my district who are especially concerned about that situation, not only the negative impact on cattle prices, but just the whole way that the program has been handled. You may also be aware that the National Cattlemen's Association has offered a lawsuit contesting the government's plan, requesting a more orderly way to bring cattle to market than is currently proposed. As of last week the House Agriculture Committee was to hold hearings on this beef marketing...on beef marketing in general and on the implications of the dairy buyout program. If you skimmed the contents of the resolution, it makes the point of the effect this has had particularly on fat cattle prices, and simply urges the U.S. Department of Agriculture to recognize the problem that this Whole Herd Buyout Program has had on the beef industry, and asks them to consider other alternatives to help the beef market as well as a more orderly program. Since there are so many other sponsors that may also wish to address this, I will keep my remarks brief and simply urge your support of the resolution. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: I have several lights on this. Senator Lamb first, then Senator Harris.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President, members, I rise to support the resolution and commend Senator Scofield for bringing it before us. It is a matter of record that cattle prices have fallen dramatically since the Whole Herd Buyout Program has been announced, and that is a very serious concern to those of us in the cattle industry. I would ask unanimous consent that my name be added to this resolution.