

was up a penny, sorghum was 2 cents lower, and soybeans were 3 cents lower, yet we are concerned about a potential 1.5 cents. I think it is ridiculous. I urge you to pass the bill, and I'd like to give some of my time to Senator Pappas.

PRESIDENT: Senator Pappas.

SENATOR PAPPAS: Mr. President, colleagues, I support the bill wholeheartedly. I think the question has been asked time and time again, what can we do to help agriculture? I think that has been a kind of motherhood and apple pie statement we've heard for a long time. I think a lot of people misunderstand this bill. They say there is not a need for it now, there is not a demand. If you know the way the process works, the time table involved, you are not talking about anything that is going to be developed or on-line in probably less than three years. You know what is happening in the Middle East right now. You know what the future of our oil supplies are. They are going to be diminishing. And this is one thing, this is one thing that we can do to allow agriculture, farmers to help themselves. Recently there has been federal legislation mandating the check-off on beef and pork, mandating the check-off from the federal level on beef and pork. You didn't see a large outcry from that. That, basically, money is put into research and promotion. This will not only help agriculture, but it will help use up some surpluses, it will create jobs in Nebraska, new industry, as Senator Schmit said. But best of all it lets the farming community help themselves. It helps overcome what is going to be a problem in the future and that is fuel in the United States and in Nebraska. I urge you to vote for the passage of this bill. If there is any time left, Senator Schmit wants it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit, there is some time left on Senator Vickers' time.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you very much, Mr. President and Senator Vickers. I just want to say this, at least Rex is consistent. He voted for about \$19 million worth of overrides, and then he very judiciously voted against the sales tax increase. Now, you've got to commend Rex for that. He says, yeah, I want to get the credit for all those overrides, I want to go home and tell my mentally retarded folks and everybody else I vote for you, I want to tell my counties I voted for you, but, by golly, I'm against the sales tax increase. Now, that is good politics. It is not very good business, but it is good politics. I think