

January 21, 1992 LB 275

SPEAKER BAACK: The committee amendments are adopted. Anything further on the bill?

CLERK: Nothing further, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: Anyone wishing to speak to the advancement of LB 275? Senator Wehrbein, do you wish to open on the bill?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, and members, I will make a brief opening and I have passed out a brief summary of the bill. I want you to understand that as I...just because I'm brief doesn't mean that the bill isn't quite technical and in a sense complicated but it has strictly to do with the dairy industry in Nebraska and the checkoff bill. And the reason the bill is introduced is to adapt this administrative...some administrative procedures to Nebraska. We have a national dairy checkoff bill and this simply allows Nebraska to be able to administer that if there are changes in the federal marketing order. Federal marketing orders are the way milk is marketed in the United States. They are being constantly changed, reduced, merged, and so forth. This allows the dairy checkoff money that is raised in Nebraska to be administered by Nebraska if...as those orders are changed. This is not going to change anything, obviously, to the typical Nebraska dairyman. The money is already being checked off under national authority. This simply says that, as these changes are made, there will be the ability and the authority for Nebraska to administer those funds if and when something changes at the federal level. There may not be any changes at the federal level. There may be some changes. If those occur, this will allow the continuity of the program. As I said, I'm being fairly brief but it is quite technical and complicated. I won't take anymore time with this. I sincerely need this bill to pass because of changes going on within the industry and I will be brief but if there are questions, I will be glad to entertain them.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Robinson, did you wish to address this?

SENATOR ROBINSON: Mr. President and members of the body, I stand in favor of LB 275. I have called some of my dairy people and they feel this is legislation that is needed in their industry and, as Senator Wehrbein has stated, that the funding will be taken care of by the industry. Thank you.