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FLOOR DEBATE

April 9, 2001 LB 75

move to LB 536. It's way the more important bill of the two. I've talked to many constituents over the weekend, they agree with me, even the people who said what are you doing opposing LB 75. Once I explained this to them, they were in agreement. They understood the problems involved with mandates and trying to use a product that does not now exist, it's not available in Nebraska except at Sidney terminal in limited quantities, too, I might point out. So with that, I'd ask to...people to support the bracket motion. It would give us a chance to see what happens to the markets. If the trend continues like it has in the last 12 months, we'd ought to be up to somewhere around 46 percent of the total fuel used in Nebraska, gasoline that is, would contain 10 percent ethanol. If we can get up to 46 percent, that's quite a growth. That's another 80 million gallons of product. It'd be 8 million more gallons of ethanol used so this would give us a chance to take some observations and go from there. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. You've heard the opening motion on the bracket motion. There were several lights on prior to the motion and they are Senator Hilgert, Connealy, Baker, Chambers, Stuhr and Bruning. Senator Hilgert, your light is next.

SENATOR HILGERT: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. President, members. I have a question for Senator Cunningham if he would yield.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Yes, I will.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Cunningham.

SENATOR HILGERT: In the testimony, the debate that you gave the last time you were up you talked about our oil fields and the cost of defending our oil fields. Could you elaborate on that?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Well, I don't have the specifics in front of me, Senator Hilgert, but those figures included just every-day military operations. It didn't include the cost of like the Persian Gulf War or any of those types of things. It's just the every-day efforts.