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FLOOR DEBATE

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the full eight hours; they've demonstrated they can. But those of us in support, I think, are going to have a much easier time moving this bill, defeating this bracket motion and sending this bill to the Governor. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bruning. Senator Cunningham, on the motion to bracket.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members of the body. I, too, stand in opposition to the bracketing of this bill. You know, there's not much more that you can say. We've pretty much said it already. Senator Bruning and Senator Stuhr said some very good things. But I do believe we do need to continue these subsidies. I think we've clearly shown you the potential for the use of ethanol in the areas of banning of MTBE and the future use of E-85 vehicles. So I think there's a big, big future for ethanol and we can be a part of that. But right now we need to compete with our neighboring states for these ethanol plants and we have the opportunity to continue that and we need to do that. We don't need to rely so heavily on foreign oil. In the words of my good friend, Senator Bruning, this is a corn state. We can provide the fuel. It's also been said that subsidies are for big business only. Well, I'll tell you that we have two new plants being proposed in Nebraska right now. These plants are farmer and locally owned. These are people who recognize the chance to help their farms, their communities, their state, and their nation so, I guess, I disagree with that. Another thought I disagree with and Senator Stuhr brought it up also, it's got to do with ethanol production doesn't help the price of corn. But I guess what I would ask you is, what would the price of corn today be if we dumped another 200 million bushels into the market? I mean it surely would go down, so I guess the price of corn isn't where it needs to be, but we think we can definitely help that. We can increase the need for corn much, much more in the future so I would urge you to vote against the bracketing of this bill and hopefully vote for the final passage of LB 536. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Cunningham. Senator Beutler, on the motion to bracket.