

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

April 23, 2001 LB 536

Legislature would like to enact this bill into law.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The rest of you, as you begin to try to make your case to the rest of us for A bills, think about what you're doing today and think about the amount of money that's going into this boondoggle. It's not going to generate money. It's going to always have to be subsidized. In the same way that production agriculture was ruined through federal subsidies from which it cannot wean itself to this day, such was the case with ethanol from the beginning and such will always be the case.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Dierks, there are no further lights on. Did you wish to close on your amendment, AM1560, to committee amendments to LB 536?

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, yes, I...again, I appreciate the debate this afternoon. I think that we've covered a lot of ground and talked about a lot of things. I think we continue to try to answer your questions, those people that have difficulties with it. I would like to indicate for the record that at this point we've invested \$168 million, Senator Chambers, in these ethanol funds from the state, and the people that own the plants have already invested \$1.1 billion in expansion and in building their plants. So it isn't all...and they are profitable. From what I get, the...every plant is profitable. They are making profits. They are buying corn. They're paying their bills and they are profitable. With that, I'd like to ask your support in amending the committee amendments. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Dierks. The question before the body is, shall AM1560 be adopted to the committee amendments to LB 536? All in favor of that motion vote aye, and opposed nay. We're voting on the Dierks amendment, AM1560, to the committee amendments to LB 536. Have you all voted who care to? Have you all voted? Have you all voted who care to? Senator Dierks. I'm...record, please, Mr. Clerk.