

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

April 23, 2001      LB 242, 468, 536, 641

CLERK:      25 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President, on the adoption of the amendment to the committee amendments.

SENATOR CUDABACK:      The amendment is adopted. Mr. Clerk, items for the record?

CLERK: Mr. President, amendments to be printed: Senator Suttle, to LB 468; Senator Chambers, LB 242 and LB 641. (Legislative Journal pages 1619-1620.)

Mr. President, Senator Bruning would move to amend the committee amendments with AM1553. (Legislative Journal page 1535.)

SENATOR CUDABACK:      Senator Bruning, to open on your AM1553 to the committee amendments to LB 536.

SENATOR BRUNING:      Mr. President, members of the Legislature, what AM1553 does is pretty simple. We have clearly, as the discussion has indicated here today, a General Fund problem as far as additional monies that we can spend on worthy projects, such as LB 536. What this particular amendment does is it takes 20 percent of a fund that some of you are going to be very familiar with, some are not, called the LUST Fund, Leaky Underground Storage Tank Fund. It...that money is collected from nine-tenths of...nine-tenths of a cent per gallon tax on gasoline, three-tenths of a cent per gallon on diesel, every time you fill up, every time I fill up here in this state. And initially, this LUST Fund has generated...well at least last year the LUST Fund generated about...looks like \$10.7 million, roughly. And so what this particular amendment does is it takes 20 percent of those collection in the LUST Fund, roughly \$2 million plus a year, and moves it over here into the EPIC Fund, which is of course the ethanol credit that we're talking about today. The other thing that this amendment does is it strikes the gluten tax and distillers grain tax that we've been talking about today. And I know there is some...there is a great deal of opposition to that here in the body. So when you net this out, the distillers grain tax is roughly \$700,000 a year, with the amendment we adopted from Senator Dierks, it may be closer to \$900,000 a year. My amendment will take that out. What it also does then, of course, is it brings in \$2 million