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FLOOR DEBATE

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Sutherland would receive 20 cents a gallon credit for 48 months in the amount of \$12 million. That's the way it is now. Under the amendment, Sutherland plant would receive 20 cents for 24 months, reducing the total credits by \$6 million. And a couple reasonings on it I'm...want to mention too, reasons on removing the distiller tax; the distiller tax is a new tax on feed ingredients and a new tax on agriculture, imposed on tax on distillers would set a presence of taxation on other agriculture inputs. It does not make sense to tax the by-products if ethanol production, distiller grain, to fund the incentives of the production of ethanol. The tax on distiller would have a negative impact on the competitiveness of distillers and gluten products in Nebraska compared to other states. And the reason for the...reducing the Sutherland credit, Sutherland is existing facility and has already had the opportunity and...to qualify under the former program and has collected around \$2 million in credit already under the program. Providing Sutherland with the \$12 million in additional credit, or \$14 million, the total would provide the plant credit equal nearly to 80 to 87 percent of capital investment of the plant. Capital investment in Sutherland is between 16 and 18 million. Giving \$6 million to Sutherland would mean that the plant would receive \$8 million in total credit, would equal about 45 to 50 percent of the capital investment, a percentage similar to what the other ethanol plants have received. So that was my reasoning for it and I'd welcome any questions on it. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Debate on the Jones amendment? Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I support Senator Jones' amendment. I'm going to ask him a question so that he can emphasize something that he said.

SENATOR JONES: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Jones, how much money has that Sutherland plant received already through credits?

SENATOR JONES: Fourteen million.