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LB 536, 620

industries to give them different credits and then take away the incentives that we have, and I would rather have them all treated alike and maybe cut back on the General Funds that we would...would give as incentives on the plant. So, with that, I'd just like to again state that I oppose the amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Kremer. Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I also rise in opposition to my good friend, Senator Dierks', amendment. It was...the purpose of the amendment at the outset is to (sic) order to encourage the construction of not only ethanol plants but other economic development in rural areas of Nebraska. You tell me any part of the economy that's suffering any worse than agriculture is right now and I want to hear about it. And I thought this was an opportunity when I got this amendment attached to LB 620 was to bring some of these smaller plants and smaller operations under the bill to give them the same kind of incentives that we're giving to big business. To take this away now doesn't seem to me is...is the right thing to do because the only way you're ever going to get people out in the rural areas where there's a lack of money to be encouraged to do these kinds of thing is to provide him some kind of incentive. And I don't see this as any other different incentive than is happening to some of the other big corporations now, so why should we all of a sudden decide we're going to go against part of the industry that's important to agriculture in Nebraska? And I think that's what's happening here. So I'm going to...I'm going to oppose the amendment and I hope that the rest of you who are in the rural parts of Nebraska can understand exactly what's happening and will, in fact, oppose this amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Chambers, Dierks amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'm...I don't know if my rural colleagues understand what LB 536 does. I'd like to ask Senator Kremer a question.