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LB 536, 620

two plants in question, is out of the picture. I do take Al Wenstrand at his word for that. And I did oppose that amendment because it's possible in the future an ethanol plant could be involved with LB 620 credits, but I would assume they would come under a different funding formula than the two in question now. So I hope that...that is an explanation that you're comfortable with. I know that there are a lot of...we have a chance here to build two ethanol plants in the state of Nebraska that will be essentially farmer-funded. And there's always a concern about, well, they're going to make a lot of money. I'd like to see farmers make some money; I'd like to see the investors in these plants make some money. Nobody knows what the picture is going to hold down the road. When we first passed our ethanol bill back in, I don't know what year it was, '92 or '93, that built some of the plants out there now, nobody knew they were going to go through a period of four and five dollar corn. And now corn is about \$1.75, I suppose, out in the country. It's quite a drastic change. But all you have is a...all you need is a mini drought in this country and the price of corn will be back up to \$3 a bushel. So, I believe the ethanol plants need the stability of this funding. The federal gas credits run out, I believe, in the year 2007 and so these plants need to amortize over a five-year period. And, if you're a banker loaning money, why, that...that's...that's an issue. The plants are going to cost about \$45 million, and they're trying to get about \$18 million of farmer-invested money involved. And although neither one of these plants are in my district, one of them is close by and I know a lot of my friends and neighbors and...and myself will probably be involved in a little bit of investment there. So...because we see it as a way to enhance the value of our product. Senator Landis, if you have any questions on that, I'd be...I would be glad to try and take them, but I hope that eases your concern a little bit. And I understand why you're concerned about that. That concludes my remarks. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Senator Dierks, on FA239.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, again I'd have to stand in opposition to the amendment. I understand what he's trying to do and I think that