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LB 536

distillers grain, which I find even more confusing, quite frankly, than calling it gluten tax, because distillers grain, seems to me, would be something you would put in to the process to distill rather than an end product that you're going to feed to an animal. I would think that something that they're calling distillers grain I would call feed. But whatever you call it I think we seem to know what it is and the bill as it now stands would have an excise tax attached to it that would provide some of the revenue for LB 536. And, again, I would say I don't want to discount what I would characterize then as the excise tax...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: ...contribution and the commodity checkoff contribution toward financing of the initiative in LB 536. Clearly, those are not governmental funds and perhaps we shouldn't be overly concerned what persons in the private sector wish to do with their private dollars, at least as we're able to represent them in the Legislature. But it does seem to me that we have difficulties with this particular concept when we begin to talk about the government supporting an initiative and providing an artificial incentive where, with the earlier Raikes amendment, we clearly I think had suggested to us, if not actually shown to us, a way in which we could avoid those government subsidies and when the...when the proper time comes, if it comes, I will suggest to you that we should recommit the bill to the Revenue Committee for purposes of working out any bugs or kinks or...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Time. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, before I return to my reading, I want to ask Senator Dierks a question.

SENATOR DIERKS: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Dierks, are there currently six ethanol plants operational in Nebraska?

SENATOR DIERKS: I think so.