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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 536

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Senator Jones, on the motion to return.

SENATOR JONES: Mr. President, members of the body, I just want to stand and lend my support to this amendment too. We had a lot of work done on it and it's been back and forth for a long time, but I think we've got something worked out now that all...everybody agrees to. So I'll lend my support to it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAUFSTAD: Thank you, Senator Jones. Senator Connealy, on the motion to return.

SENATOR CONNEALY: Mr. President, and members, I am going to vote for this, too. We didn't get a very good deal though. We took an awful lot of money out of the General Fund side of this, and we also got rid of promotion of the fuel this year. So this is not a great deal. This is...this is something we can do to build some plants but farmers are putting in an awful lot of money here. We've kind of backed off from that 50-50 split. I'm going to support this but we're not all very happy about the negotiations that we had to do, and we had to go to come back to this. We aren't doing a whole lot for, you know, from the General Fund for rural Nebraska in this bill. We're allowing, to a large extent, farmers to help themselves more than...more than the state doing it. And I just want to make sure everybody knows that farmers are stepping up and building plants here as we have for the last 20 years, but we're even stepping it up higher with this bill. I'm going to support this, the compromise, but it is...it is a strong compromise on the rural's end.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Connealy. Senator Wehrbein, to close on the motion to return LB 536 for AM2160.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you, Mr. President. I will be brief because I won't say much when we get back to returning it. This does take the gluten tax out also, which I neglected to mention, which was one of the parts. And I also want to thank the many that participated in...in this as we worked through this. There was a lot of interest in it, a lot of players in it. We've