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SENATOR CHAMBERS: If you don't want to compare the motor vehicle fuel taxes in Nebraska because you have a bill where you want to increase that, I believe, why do you want to compare these fees in Nebraska with fees in other states? Because that would advance your argument on this bill, wouldn't it?

SENATOR BAKER: To separate the issues, the one on the fuel tax, we have a contractual obligation to fulfill on the EPIC Fund, and it was through a group of people coming together and building a consensus we agreed to do the three-tenths a cent a gallon on the...what we call the Petroleum Remedial Release Fund.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But there's no requirement in the law that the fuel tax be increased for that purpose, is there?

SENATOR BAKER: No, there's no requirement. Just takes 25 votes and the Governor's signature.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And when that bill that came into being that made it possible for the state to become contractually obligated for certain amounts of money, we were not told at that time that there would have to be an increase in the fuel tax to meet those contractual obligations, were we?

SENATOR BAKER: I don't think so.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I know not, because I pay attention to those bills. But I want to come back now to this bill we're on, because I don't necessarily find it persuasive to look at what's happening in other states to justify what's happening in this state when I think that what's being proposed for this state is unreasonable. If the \$60 was reasonable, why was it reduced to...wait a minute. Let me back up. Who put \$60 in the green copy? Did the Department of Motor Vehicles bring the bill in that form, or did the committee want \$60?

SENATOR BAKER: The department brought that figure in.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If the department thought \$60 was reasonable,