

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President and members of the board (sic), this amendment does three things. It will assure and makes the Ethanol Board accountable to the Legislature regarding any and all investments that it makes. Second, it requires that the report contain the information regarding the amount of the Ethanol Board's investment, the current value of the assets of the company in which it invested, and the value of the assets of the company at the time of initial investment. This will allow a more complete picture of how much money is invested, and the value of that investment in terms of assets of the company. It will either show an increased or decreased value. In some cases, the assets may even show that there is no difference between the initial investment and the value of the current value. I believe that if we give any board the authority to expend funds, and those funds, in this case, are growing a million dollars a year, that we need to have clear-cut rules and regulations for the board to adhere to, and to require that that board report its activities in detail to this body. I see nothing wrong with that, and that is all this amendment does, and I ask that this body accept the amendment. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. We have some guests in the north balcony. I think perhaps they are just in the process of leaving. Senator Crosby announces the following guests, 6 Calvert Blue Birds from Campfire Group II, with their leaders. Would you folks please wave and be recognized. Okay. Thank you. We are glad to have you with us. And also, the Chair is pleased to announce that we have a number of guests in the north balcony who are members of the Nebraska Chapter of the Certified Auctioneers Institute. They come to us from Atkinson, Newman Grove, Lincoln, Omaha, and Madison. Would you gentlemen please stand and be recognized by your Legislature. Thank you. We are delighted to have you with us today. Senator Schmit, discussion on the Haberman amendment.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, I have not seen this amendment until just this morning, or a few minutes ago, in fact, to be accurate, but after having it explained to me, I really don't see anything wrong with it, and it is a rather detailed report, but we are dealing with a lot of money, and I really have no objection to it at this time. If it turns out that it provides some difficulty, I am sure that Senator Haberman will be willing to take a look at it again. In fact,