

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Haberman, please.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Well, Mr. President, members of the body, this bill has been lobbied rather heavy and some of the statements that have been made is that we are on the verge, we need this money right now. And somebody says this is the ethanol board's funds. Well, it's not the ethanol board's funds, it's the farmer funds. They were taxed for the \$17 million, not the board, not this body. Ninety-nine percent of this body didn't put into the fund. The little farmer did that is riding on his tractor, planting his corn, he put into the fund. Now I passed out to you some facts. Back in 1973, back in 1973, the ethanol board says the committee plans to develop the idea to invest from private sector. They're going to have a 2 million mile road test to see if they should use ethanol. Here a month ago I was told they are now doing another road test. They haven't done anything since 1973. They've built no plants. We're not producing any more alcohol from the corn all these farmers were promised. They said, you pay this checkoff, we're going to use more corn, we're going to use the surplus to feed cattle, oh, we're going to do all those wonderful things. They've done nothing. Now we have a pot of \$17 million. You've got a lot of people out there, and Senator Schmit said it here a few months ago, or last year in another bill, they are all after that \$17 million. There it is, it doesn't belong to anybody, let's go get that 17 million. Now somebody is saying, well, we won't let them have the 17 million, we'll just let them have 10 million. So there is \$10 million coming out there that is just hanging there that the board can say they can have. Well, if you look in 587, the bill we passed this year, there is criteria, there is criteria there that has to be met. But you'll hear probably later we need this money right now, because we're going to go buy a plant, we're going to do all of these wonderful things. You know, if it can't wait a year, maybe it isn't that important. But you have been told we've got to have this money, we can't do anything without the 10 million. So I challenge everybody, who is supporting giving them the 10 million, what have they done so far? What have they accomplished? What have they done? Nothing. In fact the board is in shambles. They're having a hell of a fight. People are resigning, they're withdrawing from organizations and they're fighting over...they're just all mixed up. They're having a terrible fight on the board. Now, on that board to spend this 10 million money, \$10 million are there consulting engineers?