

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, it's off now. But I think we ought to be using some, or whatever it takes to develop the gasohol industry. I don't know all the exact details of it, what we use it for. But I think we have responsible people on this board. And, if we don't, then we should be doing something about it. But it's just the same way in this Legislature, we don't...sometimes we make mistakes. I'm not saying that they are not going to make a mistake, but doggone it, folks, they're responsible people, and I think we ought to go ahead with that. This amendment says \$10 million, and with the \$1 million that's a total of \$11 million, so I'm going to support the amendment. Senator Schmit, would you like to use the rest of my time?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you, Senator Hefner. I hope that the majority of you will at least listen. You will recall some time ago I made the statement that I had placed a bid on the plant at Hastings on behalf of the Nebraska farmers who contributed the money to the ethanol authority. I recognized at that time many areas, many individuals ridiculed the idea that there was a possibility that the bid would be considered. I've just received word this morning, and I've handed it out to you, a letter from the FSLIC. It stated that the bid which I have placed on behalf of Nebraska farmers is one of the three that will be considered as one of the bids for the plant. The other two bids did not come from a Nebraska corporation or entity. So much for that. Number two, I want to emphasize this is not on behalf of myself. There is no personal gain involved for me, personally. And, if it so interests the people, I would be pleased, if it should be successful, to step aside and let anyone else be the guiding entity on this. But I think it's important to recognize that at this time the Nebraska entity, which I bid for, is the only Nebraska entity that is a contender for the bid. Number two, I want to ask a question because it is very likely that there may need to be, even at this late date, some changes in the statute in order to allow the ethanol authority to provide the capital to the nonprofit corporation for the purpose of acquiring this plant. And I would like to ask Senator Johnson, for example, Senator Johnson, Rod Johnson, would you support legislation that will allow this capital to be invested on behalf of the individuals who invested it first of all in the ethanol authority, if we find that is necessary?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Senator, you put me on the spot.

PRESIDENT: Senator Rod Johnson, please.