

dollars coming from the Highway Trust Fund. And we have the provision, as I have already told you, from the Warner amendment to kick it in over time in the years coming if that should occur, that we would end out of the money that we are talking about, so that none of the money, no new money will be spent from the Highway Trust Fund for this. And then it talks about the fact that the Ethanol Authority may use the Ethanol Authority and Development Fund to be used to acquire an ethanol plant, and that investments, other than acquisitions, to be matched dollar for dollar by any other investors in a project. What we are talking about is making use of some of those millions of dollars that the Ethanol Authority presently has on hand.

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR SMITH: We will be using it for production credit and also for the opportunity to in part acquire an existing facility. Then there is a severability clause which is added should any part of this bill should be considered to be invalid or unconstitutional. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Labeledz, please. You give your time to Senator Schmit. Senator Schmit, please.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, and members, I regret the taking of this much time on Final Reading on this bill. It is, however, I believe an important bill. I want to ask you to reconsider very carefully your vote on this bill. I think Senator Smith has made some excellent arguments. There have been some questions raised and they were legitimate questions. I do not mean to offend anyone by referring to my length of service on this floor, Senator Crosby. I do think, however, that if you do not learn or we do not learn from the experience of the past, then we are making a serious mistake. I have heard these arguments so many times and I would have to just say that I think that there is a reason why Nebraska needs to continue leadership in this area. Reformulated gasoline is a method of blending fuels to reduce the aromatics. The petroleum industry must reduce and remove the benzines from gasoline, whatever that is. There is probably some chemist on the floor who can explain that much better than I can. I am not a chemist. I am a farmer. The point that we are trying to make with this bill is this. What is wrong? Just suppose that we said we are not going to allow the use of methanol blends in Nebraska. We know