

here.

CLERK: I can, sir. It is going to take a few minutes but it is up to you.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I apologize. This essentially...I really ought to have a copy of that. Let me get a copy of it. What this does is kick in a checkoff when the fund drops to less than \$3 million. It imposes an excise tax on one-half cent per bushel of wheat and corn, one-half cent per hundredweight for grain sorghum. When \$10 million is raised, the excise tax is then suspended. That is the essence of this. Also in the amendment, it will be...there must be production of 75 million gallons of ethanol. The situation is there is going to be much said about this and the amount of production that is being considered or being promised or being worked on or being considered in the State of Nebraska. My particular interest in this is a particularly large plant that is considering coming to Nebraska. Now the essence of this is that they, like many other of the organizations that are considering building plants in Nebraska, want some assurance that there will be a production subsidy through the year 2000. My amendment has stated that it will be seven years, so that anybody if they'd start in '91, they would last until '98; if they'd start in '94 and last till the year 2000. That is the intent of my amendment, that it will provide a mechanism for funding of these particular production incentives at the rate prescribed in Senator Johnson's amendment. I apologize for not having that out because I was unaware what...didn't know which amendment we were filing against until just a few minutes ago and we just had it drafted for that purpose. That, in essence, is what it is. If at the end of any calendar quarter, the amount remaining in the ethanol authority and Development Cash Fund is less than \$3 million, and total annual state production of ethanol exceeds 75 million gallons, there shall be levied an ethanol producer credit excise tax upon all wheat, corn and grain sorghum sold through commercial channels, as I stated, at the rate of one-half cent for corn and wheat, and one-half cent per hundredweight for grain sorghum. That is one-half cent per bushel for corn and wheat. And when that level in that fund reaches \$10 million, then the checkoff will disengage. That, in essence, is my amendment, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. To address the amendment by Senator Wehrbein, Senator Schmit, did you wish to