

from the pockets of agriculture to certain people in the State of Nebraska, they'd lock some people up for doing something quite like that. Even though I understand that the Legislature passed some of these bills, now we have to try and find a way in actuality to make them work, and I understand many of the representatives of the Hastings area are willing to fight tooth and nail and protect 20 cents to continue going towards Hastings for an extended period of time, I understand why they want to do that, but I guess we, as state legislators, must stop and think about how long can we afford to do that. And unless you are going to adopt Senator Wehrbein's school of thought, and his is that when the fund gets low, you simply hit the..well, you simply the raise the revenue from the farmers, I guess I will rise to oppose that. I remember back in '86 when Senator Schmit had this...got this original bill passed, always marveled at that. That was one of those times when it happened in the last few days of the session, and I don't know how Schmit pulled it off, but he was gone for a few weeks and the bill passed, and all of a sudden we had a corn checkoff that everybody yelled at us about out in rural Nebraska. We didn't know how we were going to spend the money, and we've spent the last five years trying to find a way to spend it, and it seemed like last year we passed a bill that may have sounded good at some point in time, but when you look at the actual ramifications of that now by the bill we passed last year for production credit, and with Senator Rod Johnson's amendment, you, basically, only let it apply to two plants in the State of Nebraska. You have to raise tax...raise taxes, that is a simpler way to put it, and that is kind of the way it is, I know Senator Wehrbein, that's not really his intention is he wants to make the fund whole, as he should, but he is really saying we've committed to spending something, now we are going to back into it and raise the funds in the out years to try and generate enough revenue to pay off our promises.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR MOORE: I guess maybe the Legislature needs to think, as we look at 754, maybe we need to look at our promises we made, and maybe right or wrong, we need to examine what our commitment can be for the State of Nebraska from the ethanol fund. We need to examine how we are going to distribute those funds and maybe, just maybe, even though nobody really wants to do this, we need to examine just what path we've traveled down in recent years and who we've committed money to, and we need to reexamine all