

passes, and on the main bill, I may have an amendment to assure that this carries out as long as it needs to to meet some of the needs of some of the producing, the production that should be coming on line. It appears we have some rather large production facilities on the verge of coming in and is of a particular interest to many of us to see that we can carry this through. In fact, it will be significant production in Nebraska if these can happen, and I urge you, those of you that are perhaps uncertain in this area to particularly listen to this as we go along and encourage you to understand what we are trying to do because I think it is very important for ethanol production in Nebraska to try to carry through with what the intent was that Senator Schmit started years ago. As he said, it is now on the verge of perhaps growing quite rapidly. And I would encourage you to support this amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Next speaker, Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. Interesting proposal, someone made the mention, that someone being Senator Johnson, that this should be handled like a property tax issue. I am extremely disappointed that a comparison should even be made between the two issues. We have something that seems to be trying to be glossed over here, and that is the reinstatement of an automatic tax on corn, grain sorghum and wheat grown in Nebraska on into the future to maintain a perpetual fund in order to enhance the Ethanol Development Fund. The tax increase, my friends, that, and I would stand corrected on this if it is, that's not had, that's not had a public hearing, that's had no discussion on this floor up till this point in time, and to the best of my knowledge, the Nebraska Corn Growers, the members of whom will make the majority of the contributions, are opposed to, the Nebraska grain sorghum producers are opposed to, the major farm groups are opposed to, a number of the members of both of the governing boards of the Gasohol Commission and the Ethanol Development Authority are opposed to, and we are going to institute something like that under the cover of darkness, on a cloudy day, at least, on the floor of this Legislature. I think it is a sham. I think it is a black spot on the session to even attempt to do something like that. While there might be pieces of this amendment that do have some utilitarian value, given this being the 86th day of a 90-day session, given the importance of this issue to agriculture in the State of