

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Rod Johnson, would you respond, please?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Yes, thank you.

SENATOR MOORE: Now, your amendment would retain the 20-cent production credit?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Yes, sir.

SENATOR MOORE: And that would come from where?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Ten cents from the Ethanol Fund, ten cents from the Highway Trust Fund until December 31 of 1994. After that point, the entire 20 cents comes out of the Ethanol Fund till December 31 of 1997.

SENATOR MOORE: Is there money in the Ethanol Fund to pay for that?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: It depends on the production level of both the existing plant that is in production, which would be Hastings, and any future plants. The tentative, we had a discussion the other day, the tentative, if Sutherland would come on line along with Hastings, the potential in depletion of the fund could be as early as the third quarter of '94, I believe, or '95, I am not specifically clear on that. But the fund, obviously, would not be able to sustain itself under its present level, at this level of 20-cents production credit, till '97. That is the reason a Section 8 has been added, which was the Warner plan, that puts in place a checkoff program. If the funds fall below \$5 million, it reinstitutes the original checkoff program we had for ethanol of only 1/2 cent a bushel.

SENATOR MOORE: Half a cent a bushel if it gets below what figure?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Five million.

SENATOR MOORE: Five million dollars, and how much does 1/2 cent a bushel generate?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: I do not know. Maybe Senator...five million, Senator.