

of the session, the number of necessary issues that need to be addressed yet today and certainly tomorrow, that we can serve the best interest of the people of the State of Nebraska, agricultural or nonagricultural, at this time by bracketing this bill until next year and leaving the ethanol statutes in their current form. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SENATOR CONWAY PRESIDING

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. The order is, Senator Crosby, would you like to speak to the Senator Coordsen amendment? You're calling the question. I think there has not been sufficient discussion on Senator Coordsen's motion so I will go to Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. Speaker, I agree with Senator Coordsen on most issues but I do think we need to take away the investment authority of the Ethanol Authority. If Senator Wehrbein's plant comes on line, the one at Walthill comes on line, if the one out in western Nebraska (inaudible) comes on line, there will be no money left in the Ethanol Authority. It will be broke by the time we meet next year. And we'll have these obligations on producer credit and then we're going to have an astronomical checkoff imposed on the grain producers of the State of Nebraska. I agree with Senator Coordsen, we're not going to come to an agreement on a lot of those issues this afternoon but we do need those two things out of the bill, especially we need to take away the authority of the Ethanol Authority on investment credit. Without it, you're going to...you're going to break the Ethanol Authority and you're going to have an astronomical checkoff on the grain producers of the State of Nebraska. All the other issues we can discuss next session because most of those deadlines on producer credits and the tax credits at the pump, they're still there until next year. And so, Senator Coordsen, I...if it were not for the investment credits, I wouldn't mind so much but we really need to take that authority away or you're really leaving the Nebraska farmer highly exposed to an astronomically high checkoff.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Senator Will. Senator Will. I don't see Senator Will so we'll go to Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, you know, when you're flying along in an airplane and you lose your...lose your