

April 7, 1992

LB 459, 754

(Recorder malfunction--some testimony lost. See page 2036 of the Legislative Journal for vote count on LB 459.)

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: (LB 754) ...we provided incentive to the point that we say Nebraska is interested in ethanol production, alcohol production for ethanol. And perhaps even more important, we've encouraged wet milling corn production in Nebraska, not only for its alcohol production but perhaps even more importantly for its future uses in biodegradable plastics, for use of expanded use of its starch, for use in NutraSweet, for use in many other things that will be made of corn that we don't perhaps even know about now. It's an exciting opportunity I think for Nebraska to look at this. If you look at your...some of the papers I've handed out, the potential we have for increasing the prices of corn in Nebraska, for increasing the job opportunities, for increasing good job opportunities, for increasing the amount of maintenance workers and production workers and construction workers across Nebraska, for increasing spin-off into other areas of production, much as has happened in other parts of the country where these plants have gone in. There's enormous spin-off in effect, and I simply feel it is an opportunity that we cannot afford to pass up. For those of you that are interested in the rural development commission that...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: ...Lieutenant Governor Moul chairs, this fits exactly into the pattern that they're trying to do in adding value added production for Nebraska products. Here again, I think it's exactly what we've been seeking. Through rhetoric and laws and the efforts of the DED and many others across this state for years and years, here's an opportunity to have a value added production in our own state using our own most commonly grown crop. And I simply feel it is an opportunity we cannot afford to pass up. Frankly, if Cargill would decide not to come, this plant would...the fund is fairly solvent, solid and we would simply have a very encouraging for Minnesota Processors to come, for Nebraska Nutrients who is already here, Minnesota Milling Corn Processors is already here building in Columbus...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: ...these incentives are still important for them.