

raised recently by the Environmental Protection Agency. But I have checked with the people that I am in contact with in Washington, and I really do not have the concern that some people have expressed that there's going to be any major decline in the interest in ethanol. Also, I think it's important to recognize that I believe that ETBE is still going to be a major player in the process. And I believe that to adopt the Wesely amendment would place an unknown and unnecessary limitation upon ethanol development within this state. It's almost as if we were to say we can't use any of the by-products to feed livestock or we can't use the by-product in the starch industry. We should not limit the opportunities of business to expand, develop and make the maximum use of the ethanol development which we plan. If there's a problem with the tax credit, and I know that it might be so, we can change it next year and go to a direct credit just as we do for the ethanol; but it should not be done in a hurry at 5:25 on a Tuesday afternoon because we do not want to jeopardize the entire bill nor do we want to jeopardize the ETBE portion of the bill. I know that there are some arguments maybe to be made for Senator Wesely's amendment, but I just think at this time it would be wrong to adopt it. And I have had some of the same concerns about tax credits that Senator Wesely has expressed, but I can assure you that we can do it, we can change that next year if there is a better way to do it. And if there isn't a better way to do it, then I certainly don't think we can do it here this afternoon and do it in a hurry. So I reluctantly rise to oppose Senator Wesely's amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Senator Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Madam President and members, I think Senator Wesely has a plan on how to address this issue that he wants to share part of my time so I'll at this point relinquish my time to him and put my light on to talk about this issue further.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Johnson. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. What I'd like to ask the Chair to do would be to withdraw this amendment and then I'd ask to divide the question before us on the amendment, separate out Section 10 from the rest of the amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Okay, thank you, Senator Wesely. I will rule