

palpitations of the heart. I really think that this is a situation which has changed it dramatically in the last 21 years. First of all, Senator Warner and I have become much older as has Senator Chambers, though he wouldn't concede that. But we are the only three that were here when this thing started. And it was never a one-person effort. It really took a lot of cooperation throughout the years. And as I look at the amendment now to 7, whatever the number is of the bill, that's the only thing that's left of the bill that we started with in this bill. And I had to swallow pretty hard on some of those amendments and some of those items that are in the bill at the present time. I know others did. I'm sure that Senator Kristensen, Bohlke who are closely associated with the plant at Hastings were interested in turf protection and they did a pretty good job and that's what it is about. I think that at the present time we can really look with some pride at where we are. And I think it's interesting also, and I'll talk a little more about it later on when we get onto the ETBE amendment, but I think it's interesting that there has been as substantial a commitment as has been made to the development of what is really the only new industry in Nebraska in a long, long time, and it is growing. And it's going to be substantial growth in future years. I think that we are at the verge of a major expansion in the use of ethanol, not a reduction. I think that I have no problem whatsoever in the EPA's concern, and I think that it's interesting that Nebraska's congressional delegation unanimously will oppose those EPA measures. And that has always been one of the fortunate aspects of this program. Without exception, the congressional delegation and the governors have always supported the ethanol experimentation and development. And with few exceptions, the legislators have supported it almost as unanimously and it has paid off. There is not hardly any other activity I think that we have attempted in this body that we can point to with as much pride as we can toward the development of the ethanol industry. There's been a lot of give and take over the years. There have been substantial contributions. And Senator Lynch is right. The trust fund has made some contributions, but also the farmers made a \$20 million-plus contribution or minus, depending on how you look at it. First, they funded the old Gasohol committee with some of their gas tax refund money, and that was the only source of funding for many years after the initial 40,000 grant. From that point forward, there's been a lot of cooperation. And I think that we can take a look at this amendment as it stands today as an example of the most far reaching cooperation between rural and urban