

tax and the income tax to support of those schools. That got all the way to Final Reading with very few people objecting to it. I was one of them objecting to it, in fact, in part because it was such a substantial earmarking of future revenues. I don't remember whether Senator Withem supported that bill or not, but, colleagues, what we're doing and what we were suggesting to do I don't think is all that terribly novel and it is always subject to change in this body, as I've said before, 25 votes and the signature of a Governor, that's really the commitment we make year in, year out to future Legislatures and the commitment they make to us is just 25 votes and the signature of the Governor.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you. Senator Hudkins.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of the body, I would like to quote from two statutes that we already have on the books. The first one is 66-4138, entitled "Agricultural Ethyl Alcohol Legislative Intent". "It is hereby declared to be the public policy of the state that in order to safeguard the life, health, property and public welfare of its citizens that production, sale and use of motor fuels and the pollution caused by certain components of motor fuels is a matter affecting the public interest and that a reduced tax on motor fuels containing agricultural ethyl alcohol as a substitute for polluting components is necessary for the reduction of pollution and will further serve as an incentive for the agricultural economy of this state. The Legislature further recognizes that a fuel crisis exists in the nation and that the development of an additional source of fuel will provide a benefit to the citizens of this state and to the future economic growth of Nebraska." And the second statute is 66-4139, entitled "Grain and Alcohol Plant Legislative Intent". "It is hereby declared to be the public policy of the State of Nebraska to protect and foster the prosperity and general welfare of its people by providing a new domestic source of energy and by stimulating the agricultural economy of Nebraska." Several years ago, a Governor whom we all know and love commented on the fact that the number one industry in Nebraska is agriculture. Then he went on to say that the number two industry in Nebraska is also agriculture. And I do appreciate the fact that Senator Bernard-Stevens is changing his amendment just a little bit to add the front-loading so that there will be more funding available right away, because we've talked about agriculture funding a great deal of the ethanol plants and the