

don't really know where we are totally on the budget, even if we've had a chance to talk about that for awhile, there is still another second round of debate, that's where the amendments are, let's move it to Final Reading and then see what we are going to have. And then let me tell you what will happen on Final Reading. Final Reading, they will get all of the economic development people around the state saying you can't vote against this, you can't vote against that, there is money there, and let the Governor decide. You vote on it, and if the Governor wants this, which he says he wants, it is his initiative; you vote on it and that's okay because the Governor then can veto all the other things that he wants to make room for this \$6 million. That's what's going to happen. And, quite honestly, if it gets a choice between moving this bill along to placate a bunch of people just so it moves one more time, knowing what is going to happen in the future, I am not going to buy into that. I know what things we are going to be trying to add back into the budget. We are going to be talking about money in welfare reform. We are going to be trying to add some monies back in for domestic violence and abuse. They're going to be trying to add some monies back in to university programs. They are going to be trying to add monies back in to state aid or counties, and I am telling you what'll happen. This monies will be bracketed aside. It will be saved and kept, and those areas that we, as a Legislature, feel are important, those will be the areas that are vetoed, and the reason I know they will be vetoed is because the Governor said when we front loaded on ethanol he'd have to get his red pen out because, obviously, we are very liberal spending legislators. Well, here's a chance that we can say where are our priorities? And I can't believe that our priorities are in this bill that's very loose, that doesn't accomplish much more than we already have when we know there are crying needs out there that the money can be better spent for. And I can't emphasize enough that one of the things that will happen, and those that support ethanol, beware, beware, because if there aren't dollars available because we add all of the monies in, there's nothing that says LB 377 is going to pass; there is nothing that says that A bill is going to pass, and all the gains that we have, nothing is guaranteed. And I will also put out a prediction. I am going to predict that the Appropriations Committee will have within its budget the \$16 million needed for ethanol, and we'll be able to argue on the floor that passing the ethanol bill will not change the budget status, but I will caution you, those that support ethanol, if LB 377 then goes away because it doesn't advance,