

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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**SENATOR STUHR:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. I do want to make one correction in the fact that I misspoke as far as the amendment. I meant that the amendment is to the original bill. So, with that, I too want to add that the use of ethanol has been very positive for our state. More than 250 million bushels of grain from Nebraska farms have been converted into ethanol and related products at Nebraska processing plants. The Nebraska ethanol plants, at present, have the capacity to produce about 350 million gallons of ethanol, and more than 900 Nebraskans hold full-time jobs at the ethanol plants across the state. I have been in support of ethanol for many, many years and feel that it is something that is very good for the economy of this state. It's also good for our environment and it's good for our country because it does reduce the reliance on imports of petroleum. With that, I will close and turn my remaining time back to the Chair. Thank you.

**PRESIDENT MAURSTAD:** Thank you, Senator Stuhr. On the committee amendments, Senator Wickersham.

**SENATOR WICKERSHAM:** Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body. I think you have been forewarned here that this is an example of a committee amendment from the Revenue Committee that a variety of people wish to defeat. They wish to defeat it so that they can offer a subsequent amendment that takes a different tack. I'm not going to argue for or against the tack that they want to take, just to say that it is completely different than the bill and the committee amendment that was reported out of the Revenue Committee. And, actually, we had two different kinds of bills come to the Revenue Committee. We had a production credit bill come to the committee that was brought, interestingly enough, by Senator Lynch. And we also had a tax incentive bill brought to us by Senator Stuhr, that was LB 605, and that's the bill that we advanced. People are going to now suggest to you that by defeating the committee amendments and adopting a subsequent amendment that we will move back to something that involves production credits rather than the gasoline sales tax credits that Senator Stuhr brought to the committee and that we advanced. I will confess to you that I've always considered the discussions about ethanol completely impenetrable and have never been able to understand the program with a degree of certainty that would be necessary to advise you