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SENATOR BEUTLER: I guess what I'm curious about is that the defense of the committee amendment doesn't seem to be particularly vigorous. Are you of the opinion that it can be one way or the other and you're not that concerned about which is the most productive way for the state to do this? Ordinarily, the Chair of the Revenue Committee is quite...quite strong in the defense of committee amendments.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Do...oh, do...are you wish...I'm not sure, are you asking me to respond?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Senator Beutler, the checkoff...

SENATOR BEUTLER: I mean, it was the easy...it was the easiest thing to do, is that...was that your response? I didn't...

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: We...

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...that's all I could glean from the response.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: The...the policy discussions revolving around the use of checkoff dollars for ethanol production credits are almost impenetrable. They are, in many respects, worse than property tax. And while we had what we thought was a very limited amount of dollars, about \$11 million, we had a program that was going to be coming to an end, it seemed quite easy and simple and effective to simply ask this body to use those dollars for the marketing incentive and go forward. If the persons who have actually contributed the dollars...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time. Thank you, senators. Senator Stuhr, further discussion on the committee amendments to LB 605.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor and members of the Legislature. Again, I rise to oppose the committee amendments because I believe, with the countless hours of discussion that has been involved with members of the