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number one, it utilizes the funds for new production, and that's what we're looking for is additional production. There have certainly been a number of articles in the newspaper, and you've...you've seen them, I'm sure, that talk about expanding ethanol because of the fact that there are increasing markets who want to use this very relatively clean fuel product, so I think we have come up with a program that I think will not jeopardize the funds of the state. It will move forward with the production of ethanol and allow an encouragement for those funds. When we started the ethanol program...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: ...several years ago it was determined that the production of ethanol was a beneficial thing for the state, and this is a beneficial expansion. One thing I would like to mention too, as far as Sutherland is concerned, there is no plant west of Hastings that has produced ethanol. The farmers in the area west of Hastings have been putting into that fund by corn checkoff for all those years. This would give them an opportunity to receive the benefits from having the plant in their area. So, with that, I turn the balance of my time back to the Chair.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. Members, if you could please take your conversations off the floor out of respect to your colleagues. Further discussion on the committee amendments to LB 605? Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you, Mr. President, members. This process is ripe for confusion, so I hope maybe you'll listen just a minute to be sure that those of us that have been talking about promoting Senator Elaine Stuhr's amendment, which is yet to come but which has been discussed, we would like to have you vote against the committee amendments and then take up her amendment, which is drafted to the main bill, and that is the proposal that we would like to lay in front of you, those of us that have been working on it. So that is clear, please vote against the committee amendments. That is a process of buying market share, which I think most of us oppose at this point in time and feel that our...the money that has been collected via the checkoff and some General Funds are better spent by