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direction. That's the way you build production, and we do need more production. As we look at California going away from MBTE (sic--MTBE) to maybe more ethanol use, I want Nebraska to be ready to capitalize on that and you can't do that if you don't have plants to produce the ethanol. So I'll...I would urge the body to defeat the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Connealy. Further discussion on the committee amendment, Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I did have a misunderstanding, and I will fully admit to that. When I looked at 2003 on the blue handout, it looked like a two-year extension to me. But the problem still remains. I don't know that anyone has said where the money comes from. Most of the promoters of what is still a filed Stuhr amendment are payers as well as all other producers of primarily grain and sorghum and grain...corn and grain sorghum in the state of Nebraska, so that's where the money comes from. I did not remember, by the way, Senator Beutler, about the General Fund involvement, that that was still around and hadn't been...been taken care of and served to take the place of some producer funds on the end. Senator Don Pederson made a comment I think that...that is quite telling in support of the committee amendments and...when he commented that in Lincoln County the price of ethanol-blended fuel at the pump is price driven. That's the argument, the discussion, the presentation in the original LB 605 that the Revenue Committee, I believe, to the best of my knowledge, bought as the best solution. Remember that at the time of this hearing and at the time of the development of the committee amendment, before whatever has been going on in the last week or two, that the conversation was what to do about the money that was going to exist in the EPIC Fund if the collections continued after all of the contracted commitments were paid. Roger Wehrbein had a bill that was of great interest to me and, as a producer, I would say that that was my favorite solution. That was that you calculated out the point of time in which the collections would be enough to pay off the remaining contracts that existed under the original bill and then you simply stopped collecting the three-quarters of a cent early. Now that was not part of our mix that was in Revenue Committee, but I was telling you, as a producer, that