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our EPIC Fund money, and EPIC stands for Ethanol Producers Incentive Credits, I'm not willing to use that to buy market share when we can help the people who are producing the ethanol in this state and when we can expand production in this state. And I think the original idea of the EPIC program was not to buy market share. The original idea of the EPIC program was to...was to provide incentives for those people producing ethanol in this state. And, you know, I'm sorry that this bill had to be crafted that way and I know it came out of the Revenue Committee in a different manner, but I think this is the best use of the money that we have in the EPIC Fund for that. Outside of the fact that I'm a corn farmer, I don't have any personal stake in this because there is not an ethanol plant in my area of the state and I've never delivered a bushel of grain to an ethanol plant. I can tell you there are cattle feeders in my area that use the by-product and that product is very, very valuable to the cattle feeding industry. And so, from the standpoint of the utilization of the grain, the utilization of the product, which helps our cattle industry, I urge you to defeat the committee amendments and to vote for the Stuhr amendments.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Senator Wehrbein, on the committee amendments.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. President, members, once again, I urge defeat of the committee amendments and I guess I just want to comment a little bit about the reason for the incentive fund back seven to eight years ago. The reason for the incentive fund was, as much as anything, to encourage ethanol production plants to come to Nebraska, and from that it's worked magically. We have very large plants and they have gone far beyond ethanol production, particularly Cargill up at Blair. It's in high-fructose syrup. It's adding...it's added two or three additions to that plant since then for other products. Ethanol is one of several products that they're making. So it's expanded opportunities for markets and it's expanded opportunities for employment in Nebraska. I think the same could be said about the others and I think we're missing the boat a little bit if we say that we have to have these incentives in place in order to get these plants. They've got business plans. All of them are operating under business plans