

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

April 21, 1999 LB 605

don't want to make a decision, and I understand you're going to withdraw it, Chris, but I struggle with the mandate. If we were under air quality problems in Nebraska, I would be much more tolerant of it, but I struggle with the mandate. And, secondly, in spite of what my good friend, Ed Schrock, says, I have had trouble burning ethanol. I burn ethanol probably ten months out of the year but in the summer time I have had two cars that will stall, one in Ed Schrock's driveway, and so there are...there are some problems with mandating. I don't know how to get around that because, like I say, I burn ethanol but there are times of the year in extreme heat there is apparently vapor lock. And so I...that's what I struggle to put that on the consumer. It's like getting a bad...getting a product that doesn't fit the consumer's needs and they leave it. If we had air quality problems, again, I would be more tolerant of that. So it's something that I am open on at this point, but it seemed like to me there ought to be some way to allow for those occasional problems that does happen with ethanol like it does with other kinds of fuel, too. I have problems with diesel fuel, by the way, sometimes. So with that, I guess you're going to withdraw it and I'll say no more.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body, Senator Beutler and I wandered up and asked the Clerk's advise about whether an amendment that strikes all the contents of a bill is germane. While it has been our practice to do that on many occasions, and perhaps I'm confusing practice with the rules, in fact, I'm advised that an amendment that strikes all the contents of a bill may not be germane. So theoretically, I guess, we could impose upon Senator Stuhr the burden of bringing a motion to suspend the rules to have her amendment be considered if a germaneness ruling were requested. I am not going to request that, despite my remark to Senator Beutler, because I think at the moment that would simply be obstructionist and unnecessary in our debate. If other persons agree and you were relying upon my advice, however, that an amendment that struck all the contents of a bill would be considered germane, I was in error and you should not...you should not follow that advice.