

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 605

bit on the bill itself that we debated on General File. And we did adopt AM1380, which actually struck the original language of the bill. And briefly, what the bill now does is create a new credit of 7.5 cents per gallon for facilities that expand or create new production, and that's limited to 10 million gallons per year for a three year period. Another part of the amendment recognized those plans that did not maximize all of their credits. And it would provide 5 cents per gallon, and limited to a maximum of 10 million gallons. Also, it does reduce the checkoff for corn and grain sorghum, beginning in the year 2000 to one-half cent. So it would be reducing that by a fourth of a cent. A little bit then on this amendment. After the discussion on General File, we did meet with the Department of Revenue, and there were some changes, mostly technical in nature, that were needed to be done so that they could more easily distribute the credits. There were some date changes that were added. They...we did some definition of terms, "maximizing benefits" was a term that was defined, also tightened up the language so that plans could not what we call double-dip, so to speak, they could only partake of one program at a time. And also then allowed the Ethanol Board to monitor the EPIC Fund and notify the Department of Revenue of the balance. And that was one concern. It previously had been done on a quarterly basis. We're now looking at that so that it is updated on a monthly basis. So those are the amendments that...some of the parts of the amendment that are offered in AM1734. And, I guess, I would also like to thank everyone that's been involved in the discussion of this bill, not only senators, but many agriculture organizations and many involved in the ethanol industry. Primarily, this bill was offered because of the support that ethanol provides across the state, not only in the way of economic development, but also to agriculture. So, with that, I close. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. We are debating the Stuhr amendment, AM1734 to LB 605. Senator Stuhr, seeing nobody wishing to talk, do you wish to close? Senator Stuhr waives closing. The question before the body is, shall AM1734 be adopted to LB 605? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. We are voting on the Stuhr AM1734 to LB 605. Please vote, if you care to. Senators, please vote, if you care to. Senator Stuhr. Record, Mr. Clerk.