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LB 605

SENATOR BAKER: How many corn growers...you are a corn grower, right?

SENATOR KREMER: Yes, I am.

SENATOR BAKER: How many corn growers, you've said you would agree to the checkoff remaining at just a half cent. We're actually lowering it from what the agreement was. Have you had any corn growers approach you and say, we're opposed to the checkoff?

SENATOR KREMER: No, I haven't. I think they're all busy planting corn right now, too.

SENATOR BAKER: (Laugh) That could be. Thank you. Senator Coordsen said he grew up growing milo, but he's now switched to corn. Have you, Senator Coordsen, have you had any, if you would respond to a question, have you had any corn growers...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR BAKER: ...come up to you?

SENATOR COORDSEN: No, and when my time comes, I'll have a question for you, Senator Baker.

SENATOR BAKER: I'm sorry to get you out of your chair then. (Laugh) I think I could...I know the answer to this question. My point is, I don't know where the opposition is coming from. I, personally, I'm opposed to lowering it from three-quarters of a cent to a half a cent. I grow corn, a lot of corn, and the people in here that are corn growers are not small producers, and I don't think there's a person in here that's been approached by a corn grower that says we don't want to keep our end of the deal. In fact, I have a couple of large corn growers, we're talking a half a million bushels a year, who said we're nuts if we don't keep the checkoff on, people out around the Imperial area. And they are opposed to eliminating it. I'll tell you right now they realize the benefits. It's not just an ethanol thing we're talking about here either. We're talking about feed by-products that are in such demand you can't buy them, go over here to these plants, you cannot get the