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LB 605

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Would you share with us how many states have a producer-funded ethanol checkoff like Nebraska.

SENATOR BAKER: I'll bet we're the leader in the nation. I don't know that. I don't know, Senator.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you. Thank you, Senator Baker. As a matter of fact, we are the only one in the nation. Senator Stuhr, I would...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR COORDSEN: ...share with you, I would share with you that I have never not supported an ethanol measure as long as I've been here, but I would, and I'm not going to ask you a question, by the way so, you know, you can sort of ease back. And it's not been bad for Nebraska, but as in all other businesses, there are people who are solid and those...there are people who are perhaps not as good as managers as others in the business community as well as in private life. And one of my earlier childhood memories was when we went from milk cows to stock cows, and my father wasn't exactly skilled in stock cows and he didn't really wean the calves when he should, was the sight of the mother cow doing a self-weaning process of kicking the calf away. And in all promotion and development efforts, there comes a time, a date on the calendar, a year, a month, a day, when the calf has to be weaned. Ethanol, and the facts here are I think not so much disputable as perhaps taken out of context when viewed from the overall scheme of grain marketing and price development in the national world scene, but at some point in time, whether it's an LB 775 corporation or a double-dipper such as some of the...some of these facilities we're talking about, there comes a time when they have to be weaned. And, again, I would reiterate that the reason we have this bill today is because Nebraska has had some rather fortunate production years and has had some above-average units of grain produced, both in the primary feed stocks or corn and grain sorghums, and the guaranteed dollars were accomplished before the expiration of the program. Remember, we did guarantee 20 cents a gallon for a portion of the nameplate