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LB 605

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Connealy.

SENATOR CONNEALY: It...

SENATOR SCHROCK: ...at Blair?

SENATOR CONNEALY: ...yes, it varies. I think probably it could run up to 40 percent or so, but that traditionally was the flow of grain anyway, the flow of grain into Nebraska from the east to feed our feedlots in Cuming County and the like was that; it didn't really change the distribution of corn.

SENATOR SCHROCK: And for the record, that's okay with me, it's utilizing corn, and those people that are shipping their corn, just for the record, from Iowa to Nebraska are paying the Nebraska checkoff. So they are helping the producer credit fund, the EPIC Fund. So the Iowa producers, that sell at Blair, they are helping our EPIC Fund. If you go into Columbus, Minnesota Corn Processors, a large wet milling plant, and they're producing, I believe, or going to produce alcohol or some type of by-product that's going to be used into the beer making process, and probably Coors in Colorado is going to use it. I think they're on the verge of that. The dry mill plants have a little tougher time. They're smaller companies. They are more the mom and pop people. Chief plant at Hastings, AGP at Hastings, I don't know the name of the one at Aurora, and then there's the one at York that is in controversy here. I kind of compare that to more of a mom and pop store. Nobody feels too sorry for Cargill. I'm glad they're in Nebraska, and I know maybe...maybe Senator Raikes is right, but if we can...if we can help keep the York facility viable, if they can keep grinding that 17 million bushels of grain a year, that's good for York County. And unlike the Cargill plant, I would guess 95 percent of the grain ground at York is from Nebraska. So therefore I'm going to oppose the Raikes amendment, and I understand. It's not a deal breaker. If he is successful in adopting that amendment, that's fine. But we've waited patiently and done some special things for the Sutherland plant and maybe Sen...maybe Senator Wickersham is right. Maybe it will never produce, but let's give them a chance and maybe we won't get the plant at Imperial, but let's give them a chance.