

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

March 28, 2000 LB 1234

most people on lower income do also.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So it's going to impact as a class the lower income people more than other groups. Isn't that true, just being frank and honest?

SENATOR CONNEALY: I don't think so, but it could. If it does, it'll get them actually a cheaper fuel than they get now.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Connealy. Members of the Legislature, I don't believe it's going to get them a cheaper fuel. Senator Connealy is partly blinded by the fact that he's pushing for this ethanol mandate. He doesn't mind putting some people out of business. You heard how casually Senator Schrock said, well, if they got two tanks, they can clean one of them up and sell ethanol and stop selling whatever it is they sell because ethanol right now is not selling in their area. So we make them stop selling that which is selling, clean up the tank, put ethanol in it and just let it sit there, because these people who are representing Cargill and these big shots want to make people buy ethanol, make station operators sell it, or offer it for sale even if they cannot sell it. This amendment is no better than the other one. To use my example that I often use, the original bill would stick the knife in your back eight inches. Senator Connealy's amendment would pull it out two inches, but you still have the majority of the blade still sticking in your back. This whole approach is wrong, however they try to prettify it. They cannot make it right. I shouldn't be the one making the appeal to America, patriotism, capitalism, but this is America, right? (Laugh) Right, excuse me, Senator Redfield? She's over there directing me. But that's true. People always say, is this not America? I've gotten letters from people who have never written to me before asking, in one form or the other, what happened to free choice in America. Why are they going to make people buy this fuel...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...when people don't want to buy it anyway? If people wanted it, they would buy it. Ethanol is available. Station owners will sell what's going to sell. If ethanol would sell better and they're selling to make money, they would sell