

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

March 28, 2000 LB 1234

unleaded, because it would be a lower octane than the 89 that's already offered. If you would give me just another minute or two...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Go ahead.

SENATOR SCHROCK: ...we believe that 70 percent of the gasoline sold in Minnesota is ethanol blended with...with...and it's 87 octane, so they're using the "suboctane". I do have a letter here from the Williams Pipe Line and it's a very interesting letter. I'll make you a copy, but it would lead me to believe that they will bring the "suboctane" gasoline into the state for ethanol blending and they show a very strong interest in that and they...and the letter would lead you to believe that it's not going to be a problem.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But, Senator Schrock, if they don't, for any reason, then would you be in favor of scrapping this bill, at least the part...or rewriting it somehow to allow the unleaded to continue to be sold along with the 89 octane ethanol?

SENATOR SCHROCK: No, I would not be, and I'll tell you that...I'll tell you I believe that...I believe that this may be the only way we have to force the petroleum marketers to bring the "suboctane" gasoline in and, therefore, drive down the price of gasoline by at least a penny.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, I'm going to keep all of my options open and if that "suboctane" gasoline does not come in...and we ought to put something in the bill that if it does not come in then unleaded can still be sold. Something has to be put in there, but I'm not going to try to unravel all that at this stage. But I'm letting you know that is a serious issue in my mind and it was brought to clarity, for me, through Senator Baker's amendment that he's offering. It forced us to see exactly where we stand and I think we're standing now where we started from in the beginning. It took us a longer time to get where we already were, but we are now where we already were.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Baker, there are no further lights. Did you wish to close on your amendment, AM3147?