

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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want to stand up and talk just a little bit about Senator Wickersham's amendment. I think he kind of hits the core of what the problem is here. I think if you had the price at the pump at the same level or lower, you would have no problem selling it. It will sell. I know I talked to...visited with Senator Baker earlier and he said he tried it out at his station and he priced it 5 cents under and he said they lined up for it. And I think that's the whole problem here is the pricing. I think that is really a key to the issue. So I think that's what we should do. I do have an amendment that I'm going to bring in just a few minutes here, the next one. It's dealing with the stations, the small stations, and what they can handle but I want to wait till we get into that later. I was going...I think Senator Chambers wanted to make a couple of comments, but I see he's in a conversation over there right now so I'll just close for right now. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jones. There are no further lights on. Senator Wickersham, did you wish to close? You're recognized to close on your amendment, AM3152, to the committee amendments to LB 1234, if you wish to.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Mr. President, I will make a couple of remarks. I'm going to withdraw this amendment probably to save myself the embarrassment that Senator Chambers usually suffers on his amendments, and that is seeing only one green light in favor of it. Maybe I should do that for my own edification, but I don't think I will. I...the amendment, I hope, does make a point in that you can either...you can either try to increase ethanol usage by mandating...by acting as a monopolist and making it the only thing available or by, in some sense, forcing persons to use the fuel, or you can convince them or show them that it is in their best interest to use the fuel either because there is a cost savings, because it is a better fuel in any of a variety of aspects. I clearly prefer the voluntary mechanism. I do not prefer the monopolist or the dictated approach. And with that, Mr. President, I would withdraw the amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The amendment is withdrawn. Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Mr. Clerk, next item.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Jones has moved to