

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

March 29, 2000 LB 1234

because it might hurt one segment of agriculture, and who does it benefit anyway except the ethanol plant. That is absolutely not true because the economic activity, the income, the revenue that is generated from an industry like that is a benefit to everyone, and especially to agriculture because of furnishing the corn, getting the by-product and getting the hope of more income tax revenue into the state so that we have a greater base upon which to fuel the engine that runs this state. So I think it is extremely short-sighted to take that approach. And if that is the message that's given from the floor, I certainly don't want to be a part of that and I want to clarify at least what my thoughts are on that. So I thank you, Senator Crosby, for the time.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Bromm. Senator Chambers, on the Jones amendment. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President, members of the Legislature, we're getting closer and closer to nothing, but at least we're talking. I'm not going to say anything about what has been mentioned to me because everything is in a state of flux right now. I don't know what those who are on this bill are going to do with it, but it's up to them because it is their bill. I could say what I would do with it were it mine, but the fact is that it is not mine. This bill, I think, is going to continue to draw increasing opposition from the public. As the public becomes aware of what the Legislature is trying to force down its throat in the form of mandated ethanol use, the more the public is going to become offended, even some people who use ethanol. And you know who they're going to get angry at? The farmers, the farmers who are not making money out of this. But those greedy farmers, always looking to be subsidized, are sticking it to us again. Who else can they point to to blame? They've said on this floor it's for the farm economy. That's what they've said. The problem is that we don't have many practical politicians on this floor. I am a politician. I'm not a statesperson. I am a politician, and I know what reality is and I know where reality is, and I know the reality that I try to create and I know how far I'm willing to go to create it. Sometimes people throw in the towel too soon, they get frustrated and they say, if I can't get my way right now, I'm just going to give it all up and go home. That's why they don't