

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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advocate the summertime use of ethanol to reduce carbon monoxide. Ethanol contains 33 percent less energy per gallon than gasoline. Use of ethanol results in lower gas mileage. There will be a 2.3 to 3.5 percent drop in fuel economy with ethanol-blended gasoline. Ethanol blends cause minor engine performance problems in marine and recreational equipment with carbureted engines. The size and variety of Minnesota's program "supportedly" ethanol development dwarfs all other rural economic development efforts. A more diversified approach is recommended. Ethanol production is concentrated in a few large companies. The ethanol industry is dependent on federal ethanol subsidies of 54 cents per gallon, and I understand that's still the rate that it's being subsidized today. I would love to support the corn growers, but I think during the interim, if they do these studies, I hope they look at a lot of these different issues. I'm not going to be here next year but I hope the ones that are very interested in our choice out there at the pumps give this good consideration. Thank you, and I'll turn my time back to the Chair.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Further debate on the Raikes amendment? Senator Raikes, you're recognized to close.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. I would urge your support of this amendment. I do apologize to Senator Coordsen and Schrock. I had...I simply failed to touch bases with Senator Coordsen on the role of the Exec Board and...but I certainly thank him for pointing that out. I do think that Senator Schrock and the people who are supportive of his bill have...have gained something here. They raise an important issue and I think the real issue that is being raised is pricing of ethanol relative to petroleum products. This study will examine that issue directly and I think there's a potential for a lot to be gained. So I...I commend them for their efforts. I certainly support the issue they have brought and I'm hopeful, as I mentioned before, that this amendment will allow us to move forward. So, with that, thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: You've heard the closing. The question before the body is the adoption of the Raikes amendment to LB 1234. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted who care to? Please record.