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up, yes.

SENATOR COMBS: Okay. I'm still listening and processing, and I thank you for answering my questions. I give the rest of my time back to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Combs. Senator Schrock, on your bracket motion.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, hopefully by this time next year we'll have a federal energy bill. We'll kind of know where we're at there. And I hope we have five or six plants that come on line, and will deal with it when the time comes. I would remind this body we are the only state that assesses a checkoff on grain to support ethanol production. I don't mind doing that, but sometimes you have to say enough is enough. This bill is opposed by the Nebraska Farm Bureau, the Nebraska Corn Growers Association, the Nebraska Sorghum Producers Association, and the Nebraska Farmers Union. When you pass this type of legislation, it's nice to have the farm community with you. They are not. And they realize that if these plants are built, we have an obligation, and we would deal with that when the time comes. In all the other ethanol bills we've had in the past in the form of the EPIC subsidy, we've always had the state as a partner. About half the money came from the state; about half the money came from the corn producers. I could be more sympathetic to this bill if we had that type of partnership, but I can tell you on my farm, which you don't want to hear about my farm but I'll tell you anyway, I don't buy my fertilizer two years ahead of time, I don't buy my fuel two years ahead of time. I might six months from now lock in some fertilizer prices, but we're dealing with a problem that won't hit us till at least 2004 or '05, till at least 2005, even with five plants. I think that's getting the horse ahead of the...behind the cart or something. I don't know what we're doing here. But this corn checkoff is ill-timed. We went to a breakfast this morning. It doesn't seem like the ag community is doing very well. I'm happy for those that are. And there's reasons some aren't doing well. We had a lapse in government payments and everybody's government payments are down this year. I hope there's a federal energy program that's friendly to