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FLOOR DEBATE

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Revenue staff as to who is going to qualify and the fact that we don't consider it was ever the intent of the Legislature to let anyone come in with a portable still, produce a few thousand gallons of ethanol; thereby qualify for the EPIC incentives. That was not the intent of the Legislature, never has been, and it's not going to change today. These people need to get these plants up, constructed in whole, not use a portable still to try and qualify and build the plant later. Senator Kremer will no doubt speak to the bill or to the committee amendments which actually is his bill, LB 376, and how we came about with these qualifications and guidelines. I'd be glad to answer any questions. Thank you.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Senator Baker. The Chair will now call on Senator Beutler, to be followed by Senators Chambers, Baker, Bourne, Connealy, and Kremer. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Lieutenant Governor, and members of the Legislature, Senator Baker, if you're the one taking questions on this, I'd like to ask you a couple so I can understand the dimensions of the bill. All the financing provisions have been taken out by your description.

SENATOR BAKER: Yes, they have.

SENATOR BEUTLER: But you're leaving in all of the different criteria that will determine how much financing needs to be done. Is that right?

SENATOR BAKER: Yes. We, through the work we've done over the interim, it was...we had several scenarios, and we determined scenario I think it was A. Four plants will be constructed and in production by June 30, and that's what we need to have the funding in place for. And that leaves us, with those four plants qualifying leaves us \$42 million short of funding the EPIC incentive program, but that's in a separate bill. We decided that was the route we wanted to take and I will probably prioritize that bill.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, so are we try...will we try to deal this session with funding for any plants beyond the four, and I