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shoulders; that there are other benefits that should be shared with more than just the checkoff.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Kremer, when do you believe that ethanol will become profitable enough so that there won't...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...have to be state or federal subsidies?

SENATOR KREMER: Well, the checkoff goes for a certain number of years, and after that they're on their own, and it is profitable at this time. I guess if corn...or if gasoline prices got to 50 cents it probably would not be profitable, but if gas goes up then the ethanol price follows that and it's more profitable.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But isn't the state subsidizing the production of alcohol now? Isn't the federal government subsidizing the production?

SENATOR KREMER: Yes, they are.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So it's not profitable. It can't make it without the subsidies, can it?

SENATOR KREMER: Well, the subsidies don't go on forever. Well, I guess they would on your amount of gas tax, helps in that area for incentives, right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And you need that because it's not ever going to be able to stand on its own feet or fuel its own tank, so to speak.

SENATOR KREMER: I would never...I would not say that it would never stand on its own feet, because it depends on the price of gasoline and the price of corn and a lot of other things.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Kremer. My time is up. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Engel.