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SENATOR BOURNE: Senator Baker had indicated that the Department of Revenue didn't want to assume this function. And I had said, well, you know, quite honestly, that's too bad. I mean, that's their job, and I...what I would suggest to you, Senator Stuhr, is, right now, the Department of Revenue already evaluates these applications, do they qualify for credits, under all of our incentive programs, not just the ethanol one. You know, here's the criteria for qualifying for credits; has the employer, the producer, the...you know, the business, have they met those criteria, meaning have they made the investment under LB 775, have they added the employees under LB 775? You see what I'm saying?

SENATOR STUHR: Yes.

SENATOR BOURNE: All of our incentive programs provide thresholds that businesses must meet in order to qualify. The Department of Revenue currently evaluates all of those proposals to verify that they have indeed satisfied their obligations under the statute. This simply says that there's one additional thing that needs to be verified as it relates to the awarding of credits for ethanol producers, and that is that they allowed Nebraska contractors to bid, and that they didn't just disregard a Nebraska bid. Again, there's nothing in here that would say, you know, if a Nebraska contractor bid \$2 million and the next...other person was \$1 million, there's nothing that requires them to go to a Nebraska contractor if the bid is out of line.

SENATOR STUHR: Okay.

SENATOR BOURNE: Further, if there is a specialty in building these plants, there's nothing in here that would prevent the producer from selecting the specialists rather than the Nebraska resident. So, I don't know what Department of Revenue is going to set up as it relates to this. You know, it's kind of their discretion. But it's certainly not unusual, compared to what they're already doing with their other incentive programs.

SENATOR STUHR: Okay. Thank you very much, because I think