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LB 479, 1065

think we could amend LB 1065 to appease Senator Bourne's concerns, and go ahead. And I would ask that we adopt the amendment and move LB 479 to Final Reading. Thank you, Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. Senator Schrock, on the Baker amendment.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, it is 1:30 on Friday afternoon. And I know ethanol legislation needs to be passed, but I'd rather take the attitude that this is something that we need to do, and it's a pleasure to do it. Not that we have to do it. Ethanol is the bright spot out there in rural Nebraska. And I'm concerned also about what's in LB 479, and I would like to have a chance to take a look at it over the weekend. And I'm not sure I'm ready to vote for the bill today. I want to know what's in it. And if this curtails some of those plants that are trying to locate in this plant...in this state, then I'm opposed to it. Or...I just don't...I want to think...I think we should think about this before we move it. I'm not ready to go that way today. I appreciate Senator Bourne bringing the issue up. And you know, I agree with Senator Bourne that it's good to have Nebraska labor build these plants. But the corn \$2.70 a bushel today. Without ethanol, we're probably talking \$2.00 corn. If you don't think that makes a difference in the financial condition of this state, well then you're not paying attention to what's going on out there in rural Nebraska. I give the rest of my time back to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Anybody else wishing to speak to the Baker amendment? There are no lights on, Senator Baker. You're recognize to close if you care to.

SENATOR BAKER: Yes, thank you, Senator Cudaback. And I do wish to close. I will not be long. I'm sorry, I was involved with a conference here off the mike. I wasn't listening to what Senator Schrock had to say. But we have to put these ethanol plants that are hoping to qualify for LB 536 on notice that, yes, we are serious about this. Senator Bourne and I have agreed that we'd move the bill to Final Reading. And I will