

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

March 24, 2004 LB 479, 1065

unless we iron all this out on Final Reading I'm going to vote no and see what I can do...I don't...to stop it. Because I don't believe that the bill really does much of anything now. I think it does shut the door on a program that, without a funding stream, we don't know if we want to shut the door or not. I mean, we don't know how many plants are going to come about until June 30, so we really don't know how much money we need. Senator Baker wants to pass LB 1065 this year, which will fund, as I understand it, only those four plants that are basically up and running now. Well, arguably there might be two more or four more, I don't know, but I understand there's a willingness from the corn folks to step up and pay some money via checkoff, and I understand there's also some reluctance on their behalf to commit to an amount until they know exactly what the exposure is. So again, I'm...do we want to...I don't want to extend the deadline, but on the other hand, if somebody can make it by this deadline that we set a couple years ago, I think we should afford them every opportunity to do that. That's where I'm at. Hopefully, the Attorney General Opinion will come down before this bill gets on Final Reading. I assume that Senator Baker will be willing to work with everybody involved to promote the industry while not extending the deadline.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne. We're debating the motion to advance LB 479 to E & R for engrossing. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I perhaps misunderstood the thrust of the request for an Opinion from the Attorney General that Senator Schrock had made. Is he near his mike? Senator Schrock, may I break up the trinity and ask you a question?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schrock, would you respond to a question from Senator Chambers?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Schrock,...

SENATOR SCHROCK: Senator Chambers, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...I perhaps misunderstood what the purpose