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SENATOR KREMER: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to speak.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: How much time?

SENATOR KREMER: Forty-one seconds.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I'd like to ask Senator Brashear one question. Senator Brashear, your plan envisions at some point raising the gas tax. Is that correct?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: That's correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Strike three. Thank you.

SENATOR KREMER: Senator Brashear. Senator Brashear...Senator Stuhr, you're recognized to speak.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I have not spoken on this issue as yet, and I am among those that believe, as much as I dislike it, that we do need to do something. Doing nothing is probably not acceptable. Last year we had an indication that we were going to have a revenue problem. This year the depth of it we really were unsure of. When we arrived this session, we were looking at about over \$200 million. The Forecasting Board adds another \$100 million. I guess it's what you call piling on. And then the low-level waste site, another \$151 million. I do commend Senator Beutler and Senator Brashear and Senator Hartnett for bringing us these options. I do agree though that I believe all of the options have some problems, although I haven't come up with a solution. But Senator Beutler's amendment, I would be opposed to. I think it is a fairness issue. It does have an uneven impact on certain businesses, particularly those involved in agriculture. The 5 percent could actually mount into thousands of dollars in one year. It's also an industry that we cannot pass those additional costs on. And I do believe that it could have an impact on economic development. I also stand in opposition to Senator Brashear's bond plan. It would be a major shift in policy. I'm one of those that don't want to put the obligation