

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

April 5, 2004 LB 962, 962A, 1065

Enrollment and Review reports LB 962 and LB 962A as correctly engrossed. That's all I have. (Legislative Journal pages 1469-1470.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Okay. Thank you. Mr. Clerk, inform the body where we were when we left for lunch.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, prior to recess, LB 1065 was under consideration. The committee amendments have been offered by the Revenue Committee. Pending was an amendment to the committee amendments offered by Senator Landis, AM2845.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. We will continue with discussion on AM2845, offered by Senator Landis to the Revenue Committee amendments to LB 1065. On with discussion, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this bill in its present form would raise the gas tax. I would like to ask Senator Baker a question if he is here.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Is Senator Baker present? Senator Baker, would you respond to a question from Senator Chambers, please?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And, Senator Baker, while you go to your desk, the question is going to be, how much will the gas tax be raised based on the way the bill currently is structured, if you will answer?

SENATOR BAKER: Yes. Three-tenths of a cent a gallon on gasoline, one-tenth of a cent a gallon on nongasoline products, diesel fuel and kerosene.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Members of the Legislature, there is at least one other way to fund this bill. Gas tax on this bill is not acceptable. I'm going to listen to what my colleagues have to say about how great ethanol is, how more plants need to be built, but this whole complex that I would refer to as the "ethanol question" really relates to a boondoggle which never, ever should have been subsidized by this state. Archer Daniels Midland, and there's another one, maybe