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FLOOR DEBATE

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in the committee amendment. This committee amendment will do some good if it should be adopted, but the bill itself is not good. I'd like to ask Senator Baker another question.

SENATOR CUDABACK:      Senator Baker, would you respond to a question?

SENATOR BAKER:      Yes, I would.

SENATOR CHAMBERS:      Senator Baker, what would it take to persuade you to agree to removing the gasoline tax from this bill?

SENATOR BAKER:      You know, Senator Chambers, right now I have a commitment to the group that worked on this and I...my commitment was to stay with that, the bill as drafted, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS:      I understand that commitment. Thank you, Senator Baker. Members of the Legislature, what I think Senator Baker will tell those people who got him to offer that...to give that commitment is that circumstances alter cases, that a wise person will look at the lay of the land and make a decision that's in the best interest of his constituency. If they cannot get everything they want, get some of it. If they cannot get some of it, try not to be worse off than they are now. If they're going to be worse off than they are now, cut their losses to the extent that they can. There has to be some pain here and there isn't yet. So on page 3, these are the lines I would like to strike: "Not more than fifteen million six hundred twenty-five thousand gallons of ethanol produced annually at an ethanol facility shall be eligible for credits under this subsection. Not more than one hundred twenty-five million gallons of ethanol produced at an ethanol facility by the end of the ninety-six-consecutive-month period or forty-eight-consecutive-month period set forth in this subsection shall be eligible for credits under this subsection." I'd like to ask Senator Baker a question, not about when he would get off the gas tax.

SENATOR CUDABACK:      Senator Baker.