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FLOOR DEBATE

April 5, 2004

LB 1065

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. I'd like to ask Senator Wehrbein a question, if I might, please.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Wehrbein, would you respond?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Senator Wehrbein, I was interested in your proposal. And I'm curious the amount of money that's going to be provided by raising this to 1 cent. Will that in fact provide the funding for these three, four, five, six, or however many other plants are going to be built?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: This only provides adequate funding for the four plants that are going to make the June 30 deadline. It doesn't do anything for the four that...or two, three, or four that are possible.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, if I heard right earlier, I heard that some of these plants are going to be qualified by the June deadline. So they wouldn't be eligible for any of this money, is that right?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, they would be eligible to the point that they make it. But it would mean this would run out...this money would run out sooner. So...

SENATOR VRTISKA: Okay.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: ...down the road, there probably would need more funding.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, that's what I was curious about. And the other question I need to ask you--and you can answer me however you feel is correct--but do you think that the building of an ethanol plant anyplace in Nebraska can help provide increase in the cost of corn in areas where I live, where there aren't any ethanol plants? Or does it just allude to the places where there are plants already built? What's your take on that?