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FLOOR DEBATE

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would be lower, substantially lower. And I think that is where we got to look at the big picture. So I think it is a slight increase in the taxes. I will agree with that. But I think there is so much more benefit to it than just that little bit of an increase. So with that, I return the balance of my time to the Chair. Thank you.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Senator. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Redfield, you're now the next speaker.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body. I was one of the affirmative votes on LB 1065 from the Revenue Committee, because in fact Nebraska has accepted a contractual obligation. We have no resources to pay that obligation, and therefore it became our burden to find an avenue to meet this need. I did advance the bill because it was a combination of funding sources. And when we look at users who benefit paying the cost of the benefit, I think that it is entirely fair that we look also at those who consume the fuel. However, in the discussion that is before us, we're talking about ethanol products only. So in fact it might be even fairer if we were to look at limiting the fuel tax increase to ethanol products at the pump. Why do I say that? Because in fact, just on the news today, they were saying that ethanol products are roughly 3 cents less at the pump than the unleaded gasoline. So in fact those people benefit when they use ethanol products by a cost savings. And the very, very limited .3 percent cost increase in fuel tax for those users would in fact still result in a savings for them at the pump. So I think that I can support LB 1065 as it exists. But I could also support it if we were to limit the fuel tax to those who are using the ethanol products. And if Senator Chambers would like to use the remainder of my time, he is welcome to it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Senator Chambers, 3 minutes and 13 seconds.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Thank you, Senator Redfield. Members of the Legislature, there has been some work done, and an amendment has been placed on the desk. So rather than prolong the discussion at this stage, I'm going to pretend that I am a dentist, I'm going to pretend that my pending motion is a