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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 1065

and put it on Select, if nothing else. We have...we went...we lost over \$4 million, almost \$5 million yesterday because of the age of majority. We'd had that in our budget, it was \$9 million first year...or \$900,000, just under a million; \$2.1 million the second year. It's \$3 million. That showed up, we have a bigger gap this morning, \$304 million. This would take it, if I understand right, it takes it to \$314 million, if we divert this motor vehicle money away from the General Fund. It's going to widen the gap in the first place. And I think, Senator Beutler, I know, Senator Schrock, in the long run I would like to do more General Fund money for this too, but we've created another battle here that I think whatever the day this is, I'm losing track, fifty-fourth or fifth day, I think we're going to have to fight the battle another year in terms of how to fund those out years and the out...those other plants, whether it's two, three, four, or even five. And we're going to have to find a credible funding source. And it was suggested we might have a study. We did have a study last year. Senator Baker spent all last summer, lost track how many times they came to Lincoln for that meeting, because we've tried. There are no easy solutions, just like there are on many others. And I don't know there is any easy solution between now and next January again, but we have the plants, and in the big picture I think we have what we should have; ethanol plants, and ethanol production, and by-products, and jobs, and property tax paid in Nebraska. And don't lose count, it hasn't been said much, but if we don't do it, other states are going to do it. So I think it's important to keep us on the ethanol production...ethanol wagon, if you will, the train. We're closer to the western markets, which is where it's critical. California, if I recall, is the sixth-largest country in the world in its economy, and we're just a little bit away from that economy and shipping that ethanol west. So there are so many things going for ethanol, I don't think Nebraska can afford to be behind the eight ball. So I think we have to solve that problem in the out years. But I would much prefer to see LB 1065 move at this point, move on to other things, and we'll solve that issue that Senator Beutler rightly raises, can't criticize that, but we can solve it over the next nine months or a year or next year at this time finding that source, because we don't just need 10, we may need 80 or 90 more million, and that will not be easy to solve. But we