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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 90

SENATOR STUHR: ...it was not funded for several years. But some of the purposes are to enhance the opportunities for small businesses in ag and rural communities, and to encourage partnerships, networks, and cooperative efforts for promotion of value-added activities. I believe we've been talking about this for years, that not only do we need to produce a product, but we need to add value to that product. And this will then provide some grants, up to \$75,000, to communities, to counties, to agencies, educational institutions,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time,...

SENATOR STUHR: ...nonprofit...

SENATOR CUDABACK: ...Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Did you say time?

SENATOR CUDABACK: I did, Senator.

SENATOR STUHR: All right. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Stuhr and Senator Wehrbein. You've heard the opening on the Wehrbein amendment. Mr. Clerk. We now go to discussion of the Wehrbein amendment. Senator Connealy.

SENATOR CONNEALY: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I think this is a logical approach. This is a state's responsibility. We have taken on this, and we've had success. Well, we passed a bill a few years back that built ethanol plants. And we shouldn't really complain about the fact that we have some obligations, because it is doing what we wanted it to do. And it...and hopefully, we'll build more plants. We do have a possibility of more. I think that the Lexington will be built. Whether anyone else will or not is up in the air. But that obligation going forward, we as a Legislature, I think, have to fund. But we ought to also take pride in the fact that we're using grain and making a product that is good for our economy and for our environment, and that it is a win for this state if an ethanol plant comes to us. It uses our product to add value