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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 90

help rural Nebraska and agriculture, especially as we see the tremendous burden that property tax of agriculture does. And we're talking about incentives. And then we were going to increase the tax of the average farmer of \$1,000 a year. Didn't make any sense at all. So the corn growers were willing to add an eighth of a cent to show that they were willing to be part of the mix. But on top of that, then we needed some more from the General Fund. I think the...even though I think maybe...I don't know, Senator Bourne maybe mentioned that it was still a little shortfall in there. But the...it's assuming that the Lexington plant would come on stream January 1. And most plants take seven to eight months.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR KREMER: So that's all they have from now to get it going to January 1. And it's pretty slow, the process there. It seems like there's not many people working there. I would doubt if it's going to be on line by January 1. So you're talking of maybe \$1 million or \$1.4 million less than what that shows. Plus, I think it was mentioned that the corn checkoff is based on a billion-bushel crop. Last year we had about 1.3 billion. If you'd take and add...if it's 1.3 billion for the rest of the program, that's going to be plenty to fund the rest of the shortfall out through that area. We don't know if any of the others are going to come on line. If they do, we'll have to address that. But this would take care of all the plants, plus the Central City plant. So just a few figures. And I think the impact on the different communities is tremendous, that it's something that it's not only the corn grower benefits, but everybody in the community, even schools. I know Central City mentioned that if there's new jobs, new families coming to town,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: ...new students, and that would be more state aid coming back to the community. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Kremer and Senator Erdman. Mr. Clerk, announcement, please.