

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 10, 2005

LB 90

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: It could, in the out-years, depending on corn production and so forth. Yes.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. And if all five of these plants come on, the shortfall, even with your amendment, would be somewhere in the upper \$80 million range?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: That could be, yes.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. So it's...Senator Landis earlier had mentioned \$128 million. And I did check, and the number is actually somewhere in the upper \$80 millions. But we're uncertain, because it would depend on when those five come on line, basically. Is that accurate?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: That's right.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. Can we...?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Because as time goes by, they will be drawing less and less...they have less and less potential to draw.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. You know, one of the reasons that I...Senator Landis had mentioned an amendment that was filed last year. And one of the reasons I supported that is because I thought we had passed a bill, LB 536, and while not perfect, it did encourage ethanol plants to locate here. I personally feel we're missing the boat by not extending LB 536. But that's a debate for another day. I am struggling, though. It's hard to extend the program when you haven't funded the one you have already. So Senator Wehrbein, what I guess I'm going to ask you is that, would you support some sort of an indexed funding scheme as an amendment to this bill? And by that I mean, we know that there are going to be six plants on line, and we know that your amendment, even though it funds it to 2010, we know it's a little short, but what if we had some sort of an index that if a seventh plant comes on line, that corn would go up a sixteenth of a cent, and there would be a...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.