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LB 71, 90

high-quality product that can be distributed throughout the world, but most importantly, we can control and we can determine what level of profit should be more appropriate for us. And by doing that, they have lowered the margins that the multinational companies and that the large producers are getting, in order to return more of that profit back to the individual farmers. So there are positive things that have been in place, that have worked, that have been successful. And so to the point that others are bringing up, saying, I hope these work, we know they work. These are things that are actually positive examples of how we can empower people in rural Nebraska to be successful. On the issue of ethanol, this is a unique situation for me. Because if you look around my legislative district, there are no ethanol plants. There are no ethanol plants in the Panhandle of Nebraska. And so at some point I look at this and I think, well, it's not fair that those of us who are in the situation of funding others' ethanol plants. But at the same time, we as a body have passed the legislation that requires a certain amount of funding. The positive part that I see in this amendment is the fact that there is going to be some additional funding that would be generated through General Funds, or would be appropriated through General Funds, that would alleviate some of those costs that are going to be borne by individuals in parts of the state that aren't seeing the direct benefit of the production or the creation of the ethanol. So I think there are some...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR ERDMAN: ...trade-offs in here that are important. But I do think, in regards to what others have asked, that hopefully these will work. We know that some of these are going to work. And we need to give them the opportunity to continue to work, as we've seen in the past. But at the same time, we need to look at the successes and the failures, and to modify the plans in order to meet those needs. And I think what we have done with LB 71 and I think what we're doing in other areas is looking at where we've been successful, putting in the proper oversight, and empowering the proper people, whether it's the Department of Economic Development, or the Department of Ag, or collectively, to sift through some of these ideas and make sure that we're