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for a mechanism to adequately fund these plants should these plants come on line. We know there are six plants that are going to be up and going, and there's a potential for five more plants. So all I'm trying to do is resolve the problem once and for all. I think if we can find other ways to spend Cash Reserve, which we have throughout this budget process, I think this is an adequate use of the Cash Reserve to honor our commitment and fully fund these plants. I hope some of the rural senators will get involved in this discussion because, even though I don't feel for one second that this is an urban or a rural benefit, I think it benefits the entire state, I do think that if you are living in a proximity close to an ethanol plant, you see firsthand the benefits that your community derives from this. Again, I think this makes sense. It solves the problem of always increasing the checkoff to respond to the shortfall in the EPIC program. I think that once this...if this amendment is adopted, as I understand it, there will be some variations, given the amount of the corn crop, but it will fund fully our obligations. And I also want to say that I don't believe that the state would ever not honor its obligation to...under LB 536, the bill we passed a couple years ago designed to enhance ethanol production in the state. But this amendment simply...basically creates an automatic mechanism to fund these plants. It solves us...or, stops us, I guess, from having to revisit this on a regular basis. It makes sense. I think it's logical. I'd urge your support of it. I'd be happy to answer any questions.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne. You've heard the opening on the Bourne amendment, AM1631. Open for discussion. Senator Connealy.

SENATOR CONNEALY: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I don't know where to go with this amendment for sure. I don't think it does enough. What I think we need is a new ethanol program, one to put in place to build new plants. I believe that we have an obligation under LB 536, that we passed a few years back, and said that if plants qualify and are built that we will fund it. That's been testimony in the Revenue Committee, and commitment on my part, and commitment on our Chairman of the Revenue Committee and others here in the Legislature, that if a plant