May 17, 2005   LB 90

SENATOR MINES: Great. Thank you, Senator Bourne. Thank you,
Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Mines. Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: Senator Connealy would move to amend Senator Bourne's
amendment. (FA271, Legislative Journal page 1563.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Connealy, to open on your amendment
to the Bourne amendment to LB 90. Senator Connealy.

SENATOR CONNEALY: Thank you, Mr. President, members.   My
amendment would strike the additional increase in checkoff. I
signed on to LB 90. I was part of the deal that we worked out.
And LB 90 is the only increase in taxes that we're doing...that
I know of, that we're doing this year.   We're increasing the
corn checkoff with this...the corn tax.   Senator Bourne's
amendment...and the reason I was very lukewarm when I talked
about it the first time is that it was additional tax. It's
spending in the future if we need it, but it's also an
additional tax.   I had to really, you know, hold my nose to
increase the checkoff the eighth cent that we did, to raise that
tax on farmers that are already struggling. But I think that it
was worth the deal to make sure that we had the fund funded this
year. Senator Bourne is talking about making sure the fund is
funded going forward past that.   And I think that's probably
laudable. And to set up a mechanism to do that, I'm agreeable
with.   But I don't know if I'm agreeable at this point, when we
don't have to do it, to increase another tax, to further
increase the corn checkoff. So if you strike the new language
in line 10 and 11 on Section...on page 7, that would remove the
eighth...additional eighth cent corn checkoff at this time when
we don't necessarily need to increase another tax.   And so
that's my amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Connealy. You've heard
the opening on the Connealy amendment, FA271, to the Bourne
amendment. Open for discussion. Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President, members. Listen, I