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

May 17, 2005 LB 90, 312

place where using automatic use of the Cash Reserve. One of the things we set up in '96, those later on, that there had to be votes to do that, so that it does not become automatic. think that's something to consider here in principle or in philosophy, however you want to...in policy, whatever you want to call, that we do not get to the point of automatically using the Cash Reserve in this case or in other instances. there going to...there will be a temptation to do that. Going back to the original amendment...or, LB 90, we worked hard to get an agreement on this. We have taken significant amounts of money. My numbers are about 60...we've taken \$64 million from checkoff, and we've used 41...nearly, almost \$42 million from General Fund since LB 536 was initiated. So we have taken significant money, notwithstanding some of the comments that have been made on the floor today and last Thursday. I don't know what the share is, if you look at fair share. I don't know what...where rural has gotten shorted. I still think many of the policies that we're making--LB 312, even LB 775--has helped many areas of the state that have benefited the whole part of the state. And I hate to see us...this methodology of dividing and conquering, because that's where we're headed if we aren't careful. We have always kept our commitments, the state of Nebraska has, since the original ethanol policies were made in 1990-91, and before that in a different form. I see no reason that the state of Nebraska will not keep its commitments into the future, when those are known, when they become a known quantity and when they become a commitment. This bill here pretty well keeps our commitment through 2010. I don't know where Senator Bourne is getting 18. My numbers show 18 with the There may be others. But at this point, they are one plant. not rising. They're still out in the future. And if we come back here in next January, I've got one more year left, I will certainly make a commitment to keep those next year if we see that those plants are actually going to come to fruition. as of now, they are at least a year away. I think that's very conservative. And probably a year and a half away, or even a little longer, before they will be coming onto production. we don't know the volume of those plants at this point, so we don't really know what they are. And I'm... I think you have to put your hat on, in terms of the budget of the state of Nebraska, and say, we also have to protect the state's assets