

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

May 17, 2005

LB 90

buy it. They got three pumps; you can't buy it there. And we've got to get people on board E85. We've got to get the state vehicles using E85. And the price of ethanol is too cheap right now. It's about \$1.20 a gallon. You blend that with \$2 gasoline, you can get the price of gasoline down quite a little, especially when you got some federal credits there. Other states are passing mandates. I think we've got to look at something next year to either incentivize the use of more ethanol, or to mandate it, one of the two. Either one works for me. We had that about five years ago, didn't get anywhere with it. But it's time. If we want to talk about doing something for agriculture and business in the state of Nebraska then, by golly, we as the general motoring public should be using ethanol, and there shouldn't be any choice. So...but that's another time, another day, and another discussion. I think that will happen. If it doesn't happen next year, I think it will happen. With that, I give the rest of my time back to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Further discussion on the Connealy amendment? Senator Janssen, followed by Senator Chambers.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature. What is the checkoff now? Is it to the point where, you know, you can't afford to do what you're doing? I don't know. I guess you're going to have to decide that yourself. You know, and I look at what is...Senator Schrock talked about this a little bit, but what would the price of corn be today if we didn't have ethanol production in this state? I look at the trainloads after trainloads of corn that comes into that Cargill plant in Blair. It doesn't all come from Nebraska. A lot of it comes from Iowa. Iowa raises twice as much corn as we do. And we have a lot of cattle feeding in the eastern part of the state that uses a lot of corn. They have to get that corn from somewhere, and it's coming from a farm. What would happen if those ethanol plants went away? I doubt if that will ever happen. And why don't more stations use...I call...I still call them the old filling stations. I know there's a different name for them now, but that's what they were to me as a young fellow, and that's what they still are to me, they're a filling