

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

May 17, 2005

LB 90

station. Why don't they use more ethanol? Why don't they sell more? I burn it in all of my vehicles, except one old pickup that won't run on it when it's too hot outside. But that's my choice, too. I want to drive an old pickup. The beef checkoff, we were arguing the other day about the beef checkoff, that it needed...you know, what's going to happen if we don't have that beef checkoff? It does so much to promote beef in this state. We need to have more of that checkoff. Well, we have a checkoff in my business also. It's called advertising. If you don't advertise, you don't do the business. So that's my checkoff in my business. It's by advertising. Now, I'm going to support the Bourne amendment. I know a lot of my colleagues are saying, you don't know what you're talking about. But I think promoting a product that you raise and is keeping...corn is too cheap. I'll agree with you on that. But what would it be if we weren't using the millions and millions and millions of bushels of corn for ethanol production, and sweeteners, and so on, in some of the wet milling plants? I think we've got something by the tail there. Let's hang on to it. Let's not get it away. I give the rest of my time back to Senator Bourne.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: How much time do I have, Mr. President?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Have about 2 minutes, Senator.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President, members. Thank you, Senator Janssen. Listen, I don't mean to disparage LB 90. I think it's a good piece of work. And I know that Senator Wehrbein and Schrock and Senator Landis and others worked hard on this, and I appreciate that. All I'm simply saying is, let's add one more thing to fund the problem, to solve the issue, so we don't have to come and revisit this. I do want to point out that I had asked one of the fiscal analysts to prepare a spreadsheet on what would happen to the EPIC Fund with a one-eighth cent checkoff, as contemplated in LB 90; seven years of \$2.5 million General Funds, as contemplated in LB 90; and adding one new plant, that's Lexington, in January of 2006. And Senator Wehrbein is exactly right that the EPIC will be funded through 2009 if we do LB 90. There would be about a