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FLOOR DEBATE

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to AM2801.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, if you look on the gadget, all you see is strike Section 1. This goes to AM2800, that Senator Landis had adopted earlier. Section 1 of his amendment is the ethanol amendment. It would place in that so-called EPIC Fund \$5 million a year for two years. This money goes to the purveyors of and speculators in ethanol. I'd like to ask Senator Connealy, alias "Mr. Ethanol," a question or two.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Connealy, would you yield?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator "Ethanol," that designation does not offend you, does it? Or does it?

SENATOR CONNEALY: No, it doesn't offend me at all.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: All right. If you went to a pump in Nebraska today, which would have the higher cost per gallon, ethanol or regular?

SENATOR CONNEALY: It would depend upon what gas station you were at. I got gasoline this morning in Decatur and the higher grade with ethanol in it was actually cheaper. I think here in Lincoln and in a lot of the state ethanol has risen enough where it is the higher of the grades of gasoline, but it's not universal.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Have you seen any national news accounts which are showing, in general throughout the country, gasoline with ethanol costs more than regular without ethanol?

SENATOR CONNEALY: No, I've not any national. I've seen some local stories on it, but yet, yes, the ethanol prices are at a probably a all-time high right now.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, I saw a national news item yesterday evening and they pointed out that with more refineries adding alcohol, ethanol, it is increasing the cost of production. The fact that there's a greater demand for ethanol has put ethanol