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FLOOR DEBATE

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scenario with the \$93 million. With what's happened in just the last couple weeks or even a week, in my mind, \$10 million is going to bring us fairly close to probably meeting our obligations into the foreseeable future, maybe not clear out to 2011 like we'd hope, but it's going to come much closer because there still are some uncertainties in some of the plants. So to me, this is the time to do it, while we have the amount of money that we need to have committed to this, and I think it's going to take us fairly close to where we need to be. And I think that it behooves us in here, at this point, that understands the situation, to try to solve it before we leave. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Following discussion, Senator Chambers. Is Senator Chambers on the floor?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, although I enjoy debating with, conversing with, discussing with Senator Wehrbein, I can genuinely say that I wish I didn't have to be at cross purposes with him. Despite what he said, in his glowing report, about the amount of energy that goes into the production of ethanol and the amount of energy that comes out, I disagree with him. There are reports which demonstrate that it takes more energy, and petroleum-based energy at that, or we'll say fossil fuel energy, to produce ethanol than the amount of energy that ethanol itself produces. It depends on who is conducting the study, which factors and variables are included, and the weight given to each one or several of them in combination. But one thing is certain. Ethanol cannot be used to produce ethanol. Ethanol is not used to produce ethanol. The machinery that is used, the vehicles that are used and other things along the line, from producing the corn to the dispensing of the ethanol from the pump, petroleum-based products are necessary or you cannot have ethanol. If all of the ethanol that could be produced in this country were produced, do you know what percentage of America's energy needs would be met? You cannot talk about ethanol production weaning this country away from its dependence on foreign oil. It cannot be done. I defy anybody to show me scientific or credible evidence that any percentage greater than five of this country's fuel or energy needs can be met through the production of ethanol, and I believe I've giving you 1.5 percentage points that the facts