

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

March 22, 2006 LB 968

SENATOR BROWN: Okay. Well, anyway, I will...I will continue to support the Landis amendment because I think it's something that we've made a commitment about, but I do think that we should learn, for those of you who are going to be around in the future, should have learned something from how sweet the deal was in terms of the incentive package that we approved and make sure that we have a reasonable way to live up to the commitment that we've made in terms of the credits. And I think that by putting this money in right now, it's the only way that we can be somewhat assured that we can meet our long-term obligations. And so that's why I believe that it is important to do it at this point in time. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brown. Further discussion on Chambers amendment, FA617? Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I will not take my full time because I think plenty has been said already on this, but I would like to go back a little bit in history, and maybe you all know. I think it was back in 2002, it could have been in 2001, LB 536 was a bill introduced by Senator Dierks. At that time, the EPIC Fund was running out and he introduced this bill to cover two more plants. I think it was the KAAPA plant at Axtell and Plainview. But in that bill, in order to qualify they had to be making 100,000 gallons per year, so what they came up with is divide 100,000 gallons by 12, and that come out to about 83,000 (sic) gallons that you had to make in one month in order to qualify. Everybody knew what the intention of that was, and at that time I remember I was going to introduce an amendment to bring it from 20 cents a gallon back to 15, because at that time, with the price of ethanol and the price of corn, that it was going to be more profitable. Then the very first plants that come on ten, eight and ten years ago were struggling. It was a new industry, not knowing where to go, needed some real incentives. But at that time we didn't think it needed it, and I did not introduce it but Senator Wehrbein did introduce the bill, and it was a compromise then to make it 18 cents rather than 20 cents. But we all felt like the intention was that those two plants, and Senator Dierks had the 100,000 gallons in there because there