

Wehrbein, I said, you know, everybody wants to tax the farmer, grain tax, fertilizer tax. We don't tax the Lincoln people, the Omaha people, but we tax the farmer although he might be going down the hill, going broke. Didn't get any price for his grain, fertilizer has gone up, his fuel has gone up, everything has gone up, but his grain has gone down. So here we are, I was going to pass out, I think I still will, it is a 1984 sheet from the Nebraska Gasohol Committee that shows eight plants are operational and under construction. It shows three plants, '84 construction, and it shows active projects, three of them. None of this has happened, but we are still collecting the tax. We haven't built any of these ethanol plants. May I have a Page, please. So this, I guess what's happening this morning, Senator Wehrbein, this is just giving me an opportunity to say I am sick and tired of the farmers being taxed, I am sick and tired of paying the grain tax to build ethanol plants that aren't being built, and I am sick and tired of the whole issue, and it kind of amazes me a little. I agree that we need one committee instead of two. This is a step in the right direction. However, maybe we need legislation in the future to kind of put the kawatas (phonetic), so to speak, on this taxing the farmer and building grain ethanol plants. The one in Senator Baack's District isn't up and running yet. They have been fined, and they have problems. I guess I'm getting kind of sick and tired of this thing. So, thank you very much for listening to me expound a little bit this morning. When you get this sheet that was given to me by the Gasohol Committee, 1984, I'd like to have you take a look at it, and if it is all wrong, let me know. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein...Senator Haberman. Senator Wehrbein, next.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Just briefly, as we do have several plants under construction at this point, and I think most of you are familiar with it; Minnesota Corn Processors, Hastings, at both Grand Island and an expansion at Hastings by Chief, one potentially coming on line at Sutherland, and, of course, Cargill is actively working on the one at Blair right at this moment. So we do have some things going. It is a little different from this...it is a little different from this bill. This bill simply merges the two authorities and should become more efficient in the use of the dollars that we are putting into ethanol promotion. So, with that, I would urge advancement of the bill.