

directions to a board or commission that we've established by statute as to how they must expend whatever revenues they have available to them.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Senator Coordsen, Senator Wehrbein, I will attempt to. Some of this language goes back prior to my being here, so I am not familiar. If you read the section, it is on page 9 of the original bill, Section 9. The present language does say "shall", the committee shall become a member of any national gasoline or ethanol promotion group. I do not know why that was put in there several years ago. I am going to assume that it could have been at least ten, I don't know. If you notice, my...the amended bill does say "may" so it has gone from a shall to a may, in the first place.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Then...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: And then I would continue from there. There, I guess, frankly, I'd have to admit there is a difference of opinion as to whether we join in a national association of the clean fuels, in this case, is of benefit to Nebraska agriculture. This was a compromise bill that we took six months to work on. It took a lot of work to try to bring all the dissenting parties together. So part of the way this ended up in the bill was just that, it is a compromise bill, which probably doesn't satisfy everybody completely. On the other hand, and I don't mean to take your time, Senator Coordsen, if you want it back. I can use my own. But on the other hand, I felt it was important enough to get the two authorities merged together and to try to make more efficient use of our dollars, that this was a useful way to get at the compromise and to move ahead with it. I will give your time back at this point.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator, I appreciate that. Well, it appears to me in this particular issue that were this not to be part of the bill, if the Lynch amendment was adopted, that, in fact, the ethanol commission could join any organization out of the available funds without any additional appropriation of money from the State Highway Trust Fund. If that's not correct, I certainly would stand to have my error in thought pointed out, but I am of the opinion that other than the \$30,000, and it is not clear to me because of the language whether that money is simply appropriated in a sum to the ethanol board and then they may take any amount of that and use that for memberships in whatever, national organizations, national ethanol promotion