

would have been a prime opportunity to spend some time with it. We all had to compromise our principles on this thing. The Governor said I won't take anything but a clean bill on the fertilizer tax, I won't take anything but a clean bill on the Omaha issue, don't mix them together. Well, obviously, he had to compromise his principles to get what he...what he felt he needed to do here this year, and so did all the other senators. I think it's just terribly unfortunate, terribly unfortunate piece of legislation and I feel...I feel partly responsible for it, no matter how I vote. But I just...it's not a criticism of anybody, but I think we're doing too much too late, and there isn't anything here that couldn't have been done next year, folks, whether it be...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. President, members. I'm going to be very brief because I don't intend to plow new ground. There's been many good comments made. I simply want to say a couple things, and it's interesting our reaction to it. I, myself, personally feel better each day about the compromise. And believe it or not, the real reason, the main reason, in spite of the fact that there's many agriculture issues in it, is the fact that we preserved the state sales tax for the State of Nebraska. That was one of my chief concerns from the beginning. And I feel that whether we use it or not, and I'm not...I don't know whether we will or need to use that another year, but at least it is within our control. The other thing I was going to say is a little bit on what Senator Kristensen said. We didn't get to it, but we do have a summer study coming up with...and we are going to look at...continue, we do continue the funding of this. We will need to do something in a couple of years. We are looking at a checkoff for some other alternatives when we do need it in '97, and I want that understood, I want that clarified. The fertilizer tax helps. One of the reasons we can delay this is we then can see exactly what monies we are going to need in that ethanol fund, how many plants will be on line, if in fact they continue to come, what happens at the federal level in terms of the demand, all of those kind of things. So, we have bought some good time. I think we have two or three years to look at this and come up with something, and it may