

income for farmers. We think that it is an ideal plan and one which is way late, in my estimation. I have gone from middle age to advanced middle age working on this. I, very frankly, think we ought to get it going. I would hope that you would support it. I want to point out one other aspect, and that is this, the mandated phase out of lead in gasoline will provide a guaranteed market for a substantial increase in the amount of ethanol that is being produced today. More than 67 billion gallons of unleaded gasoline are sold annually in the United States today. If we were to utilize ethanol as the octane enhancer, lead replacement for that entire amount of gasoline, we would need more than 6 billion gallons of ethanol.

SENATOR CARSTEN: (Gavel.) The Chair would respectfully ask you to keep your voices down so that we can hear Senator Schmit in his presentation. You may continue, Senator Schmit. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHMIT: That amount of ethanol, more than 6 billion gallons, would utilize the surplus production of more than 2.5 billion bushels of grain, almost our entire annual surplus production at this time. I want to point out also that the federal farm program today, originally designed to cost \$51 billion over a three-year period,...

SENATOR CARSTEN: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...was redesigned to, and has been recalculated to cost as much as 60 billion in a two-year period. It is my own personal estimate that it will probably be closer to 40 billion for a one-year period. If this program became in effect, and if it were utilized throughout this state and throughout the nation for less than 10 percent of the cost of the federal farm program, we could wipe out the need for that farm program and stop that drain on the taxpayers and increase farm income. Mr. President, I move again for the adoption of the committee amendments. I do hope that others will speak on the amendments.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Senator Vickers, on the advancement of the bill as amended. Excuse me.

SENATOR VICKERS: I think we're on the committee amendments. Is that correct?

SENATOR CARSTEN: Excuse me, on the committee amendments as amended.