

April 18, 1979

LB 571

only the costs involved but the supply. As you all know, I think some of you have been contacted, in the next few weeks we are faced with a shortage of gasoline supplies in this state and we are at a point where we are going to have to sit down and for the State of Nebraska come up with some way to allocate gasoline, not to the degree that 1973 brought upon us, but certainly to the degree that starts raising some questions about another serious problem in this state as far as supply of gasoline. This all leads to the point that I am trying to make is that gasohol is one potential solution to a very far-reaching serious problem that this state faces as well as the nation, and the world at large for that matter, and I would strongly support LB 571. I would hope that it would be developed in the manner I suggest would be more appropriate and that is that we have smaller plants developed throughout the state rather than large plants centralized and I support LB 571.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I do not intend to duplicate what has been said before, but in looking at this bill closely, I think most of us would like to plunge headlong into this program because we can see quickly that it needs to be done quickly. With the rising prices recently, I am sure that it has received all of our attention but this says only that municipalities and counties shall be financed and helped in developing these programs. I am wondering, it has been briefly mentioned a little bit ago about private industry. Certainly they are interested. I heard by way of the grapevine that perhaps Farmland Industries is interested in developing this in the near future. I hope that rumor is true but private industry should be considered if we are going to go into this program. Senator Dworak, you do raise a good question that we should be perhaps a little cautious in going on this because we can plunge into and then be sorry that we have done so. Perhaps we do want to go into a partnership with private industry in developing this. Let's have a quick look at a feasibility study. If we were to develop a feasibility study of gasoline today it would probably fail. Why actually if we went into the feasibility study of raising wheat it might fail today because of the price. Several things might fail because of feasibility studies. These feasibility studies, yes, even dry beans perhaps would fail the feasibility study but many things would fail that we are doing today and this is one of the areas that very possibly the feasibility study would fail be we can see we need to go into it. It was raised a minute ago about going into war, if we should be plunged

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