

has to. I am willing to vote for this, Senator Schmit, even if it fails. I voted for several failures in my life and I am big enough to admit it. I don't think it is going to. Every year that we have had the gas tax up, Senator Schmit, I have voted no and I think the records will reflect that. But I think here is an opportunity with a direct tax to directly effect the project we are trying to do. You know I guess it is a time of innovation that provides the movement for all of us. Sure, this is not a surefire thing. Sure, Senator Schmit can't stand up here and wouldn't do it and guarantee you this is going to be go like wildfire and is going to be immensely successful. The saddest thing that you can do anytime is to do nothing. Now those are the philosophical reasons. Now let me talk about the practical reasons. First of all, I think it is going to have a positive effect on some of our grain farmers. Secondly, so that everybody can understand there is not a rural-urban cleavage on this issue, it is going to have a positive effect in the cities. It is going to create jobs. It is going to create construction, and I think that is good for our economy. Mr. Chairman, I want to commend Senator Schmit for bringing forth the bill and I think it is a step forward for this Legislature to implement it and probably it is going to be one of the positive things we have done instead of sitting around and agreeing with people they have got problems. Most of us like to go and talk to our people and they say, gee, aren't taxes bad? Yep, that is bad. I am against taxes. Gosh, isn't this inflation terrible? Yes, I don't like inflation. Aren't those gasoline prices high? Ya, I don't like those high gasoline prices. And they say, thank you very much, Senator, for responding to my needs and my desires. Now is a chance to respond positively with some action and show the people that you are doers instead of just listeners and noddors.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, members of the body, I support the gasohol program but I wonder if this is the right way to endorse it. I commend Senator Schmit for his many long hours in work on the gasohol program. He just said in his previous talk that he is has been at this for eight years and we do have an energy shortage and I will predict before the month is over that there will be tractors, there will be farm tractors sitting still because we will not have enough diesel to run them. I predict that some of the trucks from some of the truck lines will be sitting idle because this energy shortage is real. It is here. It is here on us today. We read a report that we are 17% short through the month of