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to erupt in conflict. I know that there are those who think that perhaps divine providence will continue to smile upon us and we will somehow or other find our way out of the mess in which we are today, but usually situations such as we are in do not correct themselves, and man must get himself out of the problems in which we have gotten ourselves into. I know that in my opinion there may be even better sources of energy than the use of power alcohol but in the immediate future power alcohol could be a very beneficial addition to our total system of energy. We had better hope that this nation does not get into a war in the next several years because we couldn't fight a conventional war for more than a few weeks, and I think we all know what the result would be if we were to find ourselves in that kind of a situation. I believe that this state and this nation could well afford to develop a major, massive industry to produce alcohol if for no other reason than for defense purposes. I know that today we sit here and we have voted upon substantial appropriations for the necessary operation of government, but I want to caution you again that we had better be a little more farsighted today than we have been in the past. As we have stated so many times, time after time after time, when we talked about the energy problem no one ever took it seriously. Today that problem is more a part of our lives than any other thing. I think you can very directly trace the inflationary problem we have today to the cost of energy plus, of course, some other very significant problems, but energy is a significant part of that cost of inflation. High interest, high inflation will very well spell ruination of this nation. I support the DeCamp motion. I hope that you return it. I hope that the bill advances and becomes law. Again, I want to say that my contacts with the people both in public life and out of public life are overwhelmingly in support of this concept, and I know that some of you may disagree with what...

PRESIDENT: One minute, Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT:Senator Maresh is doing, but at least he is doing something. And I well recall one time when I said that it would be better to do something in this area even if it were proven wrong, and I was substantially criticized by elements of the press for having made such an irresponsible statement, and those same editorial writers today are some of the most foremost proponents of the gasohol concept.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Maresh.

SENATOR MARESH: Mr. President, I will be very brief due to