

Now, after the farm organizations are added to this bill so that they can be exempted from its purview perhaps other organizations legitimately should be exempted. Now if you look at what is happening here today it should show you how bad the bill is. These legitimate organizations see it as a threat to their legitimate activities and when a bill is drafted in such fashion that it causes alarm in so many quarters, I think it is worthy of considering the possibility that it is a bad bill. Now contrary to what Senator Hefner and Senator Haberman said the other day about me being against the State Patrol in every respect, those are dumb statements but a lot of dumb things are said on this floor. There are people who couldn't be considered anti law enforcement who are against this bill. On some occasions when we can preserve a degree of law making integrity why don't we make the most of those opportunities but in order that some degree of fairness can be accorded to the farm organizations, those legitimate ones participating in legitimate activities, I think they should be given the same consideration in this bill that we gave in adopting the last amendment. So I am supporting Senator Burrows' motion.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, fellow colleagues, I think it is time that we get back to the basis of the bill and forget all of the frosting we are trying to do to it. There were a lot of phone calls made this morning to people to call your senator to oppose this bill. So we called some of them back and we asked, why are you opposing this bill at this late date and why? They didn't know. All they knew is somebody called them and said oppose it. So let's talk about the bill. The real crux of the problem that we have is the others who by their very presence insulate the lawbreakers from arrest. It is nearly impossible to pull law violators out of a middle of a crowd even if it is a peaceful crowd. Knowing this, law violators use the crowd for a protection. Absent authority for law enforcement personnel to disperse the crowd in order to reach the violators, the offenses will go unpunished. Common sense and past experience dictate that an officer should not try to make an arrest in the middle of a crowd, even those obstructing him could be arrested. The basis of the bill is good. Those people who are not breaking the law will not be harmed by the bill but those people who are breaking the law, the bill will help those people who are not breaking the law. It is a preventive bill. The purpose of a crowd dispersal statute is to prevent serious injury or violence before it occurs. I don't understand why people are afraid of