

year, which is an increase of \$12. That's what it would increase and then it just goes up proportionately up to the one and a half cents. If, at the same time, if the price of wheat would happen to go up five cents, at that time, each producer would gain \$242 of additional funds. So there doesn't have to be a big increase in the price of wheat for them to get their money back that they have paid into the excise tax. And the things that Senator Weihing talked about with the clean wheat, they certainly have done that in the immediate area. They have raised the price of wheat a number of cents per bushel because that is what they...that's what some of these companies said that they would pay for clean wheat. So it has happened and it is easy to do that, to raise that up five cents. So when it goes up five cents they are easily going to cover any increase in the excise tax. Another reason for wanting to have this graduated ratcheting effect with the excise tax is because we don't want to have to come in here with a bill every year. It's very difficult to get a priority established every year on an excise tax for wheat and we don't want to have to do that every year. We're constantly being criticized for having too many bills in here anyway, so this will give the board some flexibility there. It will allow them...

PRESIDENT: (Gavel.) Could we have it quieter so we can hear Senator Baack. Thank you.

SENATOR BAACK: Thank you, Mr. President. It will allow the board some flexibility in how they deal with the money that they take in. I will also tell you that, as a wheat grower, as a member of the Wheat Growers Association and as a legislator also, I will be the first to bring in a bill if I see them abusing their powers and raising it higher than what they need to be at, I guarantee you I will be the first in here with a bill to make sure that we can put the clamps on that and we can do that in here. I think, with that, I will close on the amendment because I think that Senator Schmit has an amendment to my amendment and I think we ought to go ahead and do that now.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Schmit would move to amend Senator Baack's amendment. (Read the Schmit amendment as found on page 916 of the Legislative Journal.)