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FLOOR DEBATE

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That's not mentioned, so we need...I can't support either one of these amendments. And I don't want to take the time to redraw them. I'm sure we could but the point is they're not going to solve any problems whatsoever, either one of those amendments. They're going to create lots of mischief out there. Senator Smith raises an interesting point. Let the free market work. If a retailer is selling just one or two products and making a living, why are we going to try and put him out of business or change his retail operation? Why do we want to put this poor fellow or lady out of business? They're out there with a one- or two-product station, and we have those out there. We have the two-product stations in rural Nebraska. There are quite a lot of them, minding their own business, trying to make a living and here we come along and say, whoa, you can't do that anymore, Mr. Businessowner, you got to do this. And I know what my mail is going to be like and my phone calls from those people. And then the next thing, if they do go ahead and put in these tanks in the facilities, whether it's we're back to the pipeline discussion, if they put these extra tanks in and the rack piping in, they're going to recover their cost on this, folks. That's just the way you do business. They're going to recover their cost. Likewise with the retailer here on the local level. You force them to add a product, a tank, they're going to recover that cost. And those who don't want to put the tank in, you're going to eliminate that bit of competition. And what are the remaining retailers going to do when they don't have that competition ten miles down the road in my case? We've got a little bit more captive market there and we're going to raise the price to consumers. So you better think long and hard before you look at this as a consumer-friendly bill because ultimately it's going to put some small people out of business. That may not be more than 20, 40, 50 or 100 small operations but there's some in my area, I know, that have told me face to face if this bill was passed last year, they would simply just close their doors. They don't want to go through and revamp their containment facilities, add a tank, new piping, and so on. They're just not...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BAKER: ...going to do it. And so those that remained