

inches can be hundreds of gallons. When you measure it nightly, when you stick your tank nightly, and compare it to your pumps, it is hard to tell if you have got a pinhole leak in one of these huge tanks that has been leaking year after year after year and slowly filtering out into the earth and contaminating large amounts of soil. At times, it is just impossible to tell if this is going on. So this is something that we must do to provide this insurance that these people need to stay in business, and we might have to work late night and extra hours to get it done, but we must all work on this problem, because if we don't start in 1990, some of these older tanks are affected immediately. So we need to put out the effort to get this bill into shape, and as Senator Smith said, this is new. A lot of the other states, Iowa for one, they are all starting to work on it right now. So we really need to work hard on this, get this done, because it definitely is needed. And whether the fund will not be needed in the future there, that question is really up in the air. The industry is working hard now replacing all their tanks. This has come in the last few years that all this has come about. I can tell you for fact that the industry is out there replacing their tanks when they can do it. They are working on it and they are working on it hard, but whether or not the insurance industry will provide affordable insurance later on when all these new tanks are in the ground is what will affect whether this fund will be needed. If they can provide affordable insurance when all these new tanks are in the ground with all their extensive monitoring systems, well, maybe then this fund will be able...we will be able to let it lapse then and indeed put the money into the Highway Trust Fund. But that is the question, if this insurance...if the federal law remains the same, if insurance is available at an affordable rate, well, then we will be able to let this fund lapse. But if it is not affordable and the federal regulations stay as they are, this fund will have to be there as long as that situation exists. So I, again, ask the body to help us out on this bill and work hard because it is something that everyone in your district and every district in the state is going to be affected by.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: And I would like to give the remaining time to Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Speaker, I lost some of my time with Senator Schmit's reply and I would advise the people in the