

SENATOR BEUTLER: No, no, I very definitely perceive that there will be a time when we don't need to do that because the whole idea of what I'm trying to do is to get these people under private...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...insurance. I think it's a...a serious departure from the way we do business.

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Beutler, I think my time is up and I put my light back on again, okay?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: You still have a little bit of time left on this one and then you're several down the list with your light on again.

SENATOR SMITH: Oh, all right, I do have a little time. All right, then go ahead, excuse me.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I think it's a serious departure from the way we do business to set up, basically, a social program, a social insurance program for this group of people or for any group of people, for that matter. And I also believe that the circumstances are such that we needed to do that. But I also believe, that just as soon as we reasonably can, we ought to get back to private insurance. And I think by framing the amendment this way it will force us to continually look at whether this program can go back to private insurance and it will slowly and surely put the burden back where it should be on the people who operate the business. I mean, if you are working in a normal, private sector world, the premium would be paid by the owner of the tanks, right? They would have to negotiate...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...with the insurance company for the premium. The taxpayer doesn't come in through their taxes and pay anything. So that's what I want to get back to and that's why this amendment has "hereafter" because I want us to come back