

SENATOR WITHEM: Yeah, I do, Mr. Speaker. And did I hear Senator Schmit say that this does away with the requirement for backhoe operators? Is that what the intent is, Senator Schmit?

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: That is my intent, Senator Withem, yes.

SENATOR WITHEM: Okay.

SENATOR SCHMIT: The license.

SENATOR WITHEM: Well, the wording that we're voting on says the rules and regulations may not require licensure or certification of a person who installs or replaces a tank. And it's my understanding that this installation and replacement of a tank is a more complicated procedure than simply operating a backhoe. I have had a little bit of involvement with some people that have become licensed and certified to do this work. It's my understanding that it's not a very complicated procedure at all there and that, basically, the test and certification is to assure that the people doing this work understand how to make the proper connections, that they understand how the tank is to be placed in the ground, that they understand a lot more other than just simply how to operate a backhoe. And I'm concerned that what we're voting on here may have broader implications, that if our concern is that tanks...the reason for this legislation, in the first place, was that we're putting tanks down in the ground that are leaking and that they are causing pollution to the ground. One of the procedures in remedying that is to make sure that those individuals that are putting those in do, in fact, have a license and understand the proper procedures for...for implementation. How the...how the...oh, what...what...try to remember the term, I did hear a presentation by the fire marshal's department on this at one time where the type of particular rough installation can cause a scratch on the tank and that tank, after a couple, two or three years, can very easily rust through and cause a leak. If you don't get the proper connections connected properly, it can cause a leak. And it's really not just something that you want any individual off the street doing. If there is a problem that Senator Schmit is talking about, dealing with folks operating backhoes around these, then maybe we ought to deal with that problem. But I'm real concerned about the specific language. I