

doesn't mean a darn thing. If it's a complicated test, it's designed to put people out of business. That's the only reason for it. If it has become an economic development thing whereby we have decided we can create new jobs, we can enhance the value of existing jobs, we can shut somebody out, I don't think that's what we intended on this floor. Now if you want to vote that way, that's your prerogative and your responsibility. You're going to have an opportunity to do it. I can understand Senator Beutler, where he's coming from. I can understand Senator Withem's point of view. It is totally contrary to mine, totally contrary to my convictions, totally contrary to my sense of responsibility. There is not one instance, to my knowledge, where we can point out that a backhoe operator, by virtue of his or her inexperience, has contributed to an accident. Now someone said you can scratch a tank and sooner or later it leaks, etcetera, etcetera. Well, that's what I'm there for, ladies and gentlemen. That's what the rest of the horde of government inspectors are there for. That's what we've got a whole bundle of people being on the public payroll for, to see that doesn't happen. If it happens, you know what you do? You correct it. You correct it. The owner is not going to bury a faulty tank. Do you think if the backhoe operator scratches a tank that he is going to cover it up, not tell the owner about it, not repair it? Of course, he can. It's a simple matter to repair that sort of thing, much more simple than to bury a tank that's been damaged. It's not going to happen. You are trying, ladies and gentlemen, by virtue of this legislation, to create jobs for a certain group of people and to disenfranchise others who have, in the past, been capable of performing their responsibility. I would suggest that we are going to have plenty of areas where we can spend the money otherwise. We do not need to add one more additional cost to the cost of this already expensive operation. As I said before, you drive down any street in any city today, you find someone taking out a bunch of tanks. Let me tell you, most of them are perfectly good tanks. I am not so sure that somewhere along the line...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SPEAKER SCHMIT: ...that people who manufacture tanks, the steel people, the steel workers, got to the Congress and said, here's a way we can enhance our business. If you think it doesn't happen, ladies and gentlemen, go back in your own experience on this floor and find out how many times someone has come to us, each one of us, with that sort of an idea. I, perhaps, am