

these tanks, we don't...there is no account taken of the volume of fuel that goes to these tanks. For a large user, this might not be prohibitive but on a small scale, one that will use just a few thousand gallons a year, this is an inordinate amount of, I'd call it "insurance premium", and I think that there ought to be a way to have a much fairer way to do this. Now I don't have a good proposal to have a much fairer way to do this, but it looks like to me we ought to look at this more carefully over time and more importantly, perhaps, see what the need for money is in this fund before we simply stretch this out indefinitely clear into the future without really seeing what the needs of this fund are. And so with that, that is considered where we're at. My amendment strictly votes to delete this increase in price in cost of the tank registration annually.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Lamb, on Senator Wehrbein's amendment.

SENATOR LAMB: Yes, Mr. President and members, I've had circulated, it should be on your desk now or maybe in a minute...yes, I think it's already there. I worked out the numbers that Senator Wehrbein was talking about on the tank fee and how unfair it works out, and I certainly support his motion to remove part of Senator Beutler's amendment from this bill. And just to run through this, I've got it in three categories, the small service station, a large station and then a typical farmer. And I got, for the information here for the small and the large stations, I got it from my resident expert that sits just ahead of me who has had a lot of experience in that business. Over there. And he has told me that the typical small station would have probably two tanks, only two tanks. They would be 2,500 to 3,000 gallon capacity and the total yearly volume that they would sell would maybe be between 150 and 200,000 gallons, so I used 200,000 gallons total. That means it's a 100,000 gallons per tank that goes through those tanks and with \$100 tank fee per year, that means it's, if my arithmetic is correct, it is one-tenth of a cent per gallon per year that that tank fee means to that tank operator, that station operator. So it's one-tenth of a cent per gallon per...that goes for every gallon that goes through there in a year's time. Now if you take a large gallon, or a large station and they will probably have six tanks and we use 360,000 gallons per year for total volume, that's 600,000 gallons per tank for this \$100 fee per year. So there we get sixteen, one thousandths cent per gallon. So you can see in that case it's