

Keep it moving through the system. It is very important. I'm not willing to roll the dice and guarantee that the EPA will approve our plan and that there will be no problems, if we don't act on 409. I'd urge your support. Thank you.

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Thank you, Senator Morrissey. The next speaker is Senator Beutler.

**SENATOR BEUTLER:** I would call the question, Mr. Speaker.

**SPEAKER BAACK:** That won't be necessary, yours is the last light that is on, Senator Beutler. Thank you very much. We will now proceed to the closing on the bill by Senator Rod Johnson.

**SENATOR R. JOHNSON:** Mr. Speaker, members, I'd share some of my closing time with Senator Robak, if she would want it, since she has selected this as her priority bill for the session. But I must relate to you a conversation I had with one of the senators yesterday morning. He asked me, well, how much time do you think this bill is going to take? I said, well, about an hour, I think. Well, it's turned out it's taken two days to work our way through this bill but, nonetheless, I think we've had a lot of extremely good conversations and debate about the program itself, the fees, the triggering mechanism and so forth. And I think it has educated us all a lot more on how the program is going to work, and has also shown some deficiencies in the program, which will need to be addressed between now and Select File. I'd like to remind you quickly that the program as it's...or the bill as it's now written is supported by most organizations that would be affected. The question that Senator Landis raises about the issue of insurance is one that we're going to need an awful lot more information on before we can make, I think, a solid judgment about that. I would say, however, that in establishing a social insurance program, such as this, to support one industry we certainly don't want to bring about the demise of another private industry, and that is not the goal behind 409. I think more than anything else you could classify this as an environmental piece of legislation, because it addresses a significant problem with the issue of cleaning up petroleum releases into our environment. I'd like to make sure that this bill is passed this year, not only because we have continued releases around the state, but also because we need some approval from EPA on our funding program. Lastly, I've been asked about aboveground tanks, whether they are covered under 409. And the answer is, yes, they are