

25, 20,000 is better than 25. The question you have to answer is this, first of all, do you want to acknowledge that there is a difference in responsibility owed to the fund from a pump operator who pumps 50,000 gallons a day as to one who...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...pumps...I mean 50,000 per year as opposed to one who pumps 50,000 gallons per day? I think there is. Then the question is, where do you want it to rest? Senator Coordsen and I think, and I think others that I've visited with think that 5,000 from the very small operator is okay. I originally had a staged procedure in there and I cut that out. Senator Robak and I cut it out because we felt we are going to take some acknowledgement, some recognition of the really small operator and try to keep them in business, and then we will let the rest of them fight it out. I believe it is a reasonable amendment. As I said, I am amenable to something otherwise, but I think we ought to start here, and I would really like to see us take a vote on it, and if we can't make it, ladies and gentlemen, the burden for the close of the small stations will rest upon someone else's shoulders other than Senator Robak's and myself.

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I hope you support the amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Morrissey.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. I rise reluctantly to oppose Senator Schmit's amendment. This, something to this effect is what I've felt we needed to do all along, but I am real uncomfortable with this, the relationship it may have to the fund and the approval of that fund by the EPA. We categorize people from no less than 2,000 gallons to no more than 250,000 gallons of petroleum, and in Senator Schmit's interpretation, that is protecting the small dealers, and it is helping the small dealers. But it is all in what you consider a small dealer. Tecumseh is a town of 2,000 people, a little less. We have four filling station...well, let me...four gas distributors in the town of 2,000. Two are actual service stations in the old sense of the word, and two are mini-mart types. All four of those in that town of 2,000 pump more than 500,000 gallons of gas a year. One of them just happens to be my brother's filling station. I consider him a small operator.