

be. So we are basing it on something on what the insurance companies will provide, and at what cost they will provide it. Now those costs, the way I read this, could go through the roof and, thus, the fees of the tank owners could go through the roof. The insurance industry two years ago guaranteed us that there would be affordable, available insurance at this time, and yet, with very few exceptions, no one has seen those figures. I have had figures brought to me by one company, and it seems to be the same company that Senator Beutler has seen figures on, but yet there is not an abundance of insurance available. So if we have got only one company providing this insurance, it seems to me that that company would be open to raising or potentially lowering, I guess, if you think that would happen, their insurance fees at will. And, thus, basing this fee on what the percentage of the average estimated annual insurance premium fees would be, and then having the department taking the time to look at all those insurance...the department being the Department of Environmental Control, to looking at those fees and not assessing whether they are realistic or anything, just looking at what is charged, and then taking this formula and basing our tank fees on 5 percent of that, I am just not comfortable with this at this time, and could not support it, and would urge you not to support it. We have got a lot of questions, and what Senator Schmit tried to do, as I said earlier, is something I could support if I could see a system that would work, was workable. As I said, I supported Senator Beutler's original attempt at raising these fees but I think this attempt is unworkable and subject to the whims of the insurance industry, and when Senator Horgan and Senator Beutler stand up and say that we are trying to protect the taxpaying public, I agree with them. But we are also trying to provide them with an efficient affordable fuel distribution system. Once we have just the Bosselman's out there in your small town, and when Bosselman's come in, they don't just close down your gas station, they close down your gas station and your little grocery store, too. They are both going to be gone. Gas 'N Shop, KWIK Shop, those folks will be there and they will be out and about, and they will be providing gas, I'd say, to any town around 700 to 1,000. But go in there on Sunday and get a tire fixed, go in there when you are broke down in Beaver City, Nebraska and try and get a belt put on, get a hose put on, and then see what happens. Then when you spend two days in Beaver City, maybe you will wish you would've helped support some of these efforts a little more because this is a benefit for everybody involved.