

variable insofar as it kicks in and out in order to build up the amount in the fund. The new tanks that are being put in are being put in with some really pretty strict guidelines, I think, to prevent future leakage problems. You are never going to be able to prevent a spill, in the event that that should happen, but by the time the fees, in this particular bill, get up to a substantial amount of money, then we would really probably not have much demand for use from the consumer financed, the taxpayer type gas tax side of the fund. So at this time, I would have to oppose the Beutler amendment.

SENATOR WARNER: Next is Senator Chizek. Senator Chizek, I don't see him. Senator Morrissey.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. Again, I would just rise to oppose the Beutler amendment. I think, folks, we are going to be back on this issue every year for the next few years. And until I see more than one insurance company offering me insurance for the folks in my district, I cannot support an issue or an amendment such as Senator Beutler's. I am truly concerned about the small folks. I am truly concerned about the cost and how we spread those costs to the people who benefit, which is everyone. But I think this is a little premature to add this type of amendment, which is to me fairly confusing in how it would be implemented. And I think we will be back next year, and next year, and the next on this issue. Hopefully, the federal government will give us a little more direction, and maybe by that time we can take into account and find a system that will truly address ability to pay and who is actually benefiting and, thus, we can lower the amount of our fund, and Senator Beutler's concerns will be addressed and everyone's concerns will be addressed. I would urge you to defeat the amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR WARNER: Seeing no further lights, Senator Beutler, do you wish to close?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, the amendment is simple in concept. Basically, it just says that whatever the cost of private insurance is, in 1994, those who are benefiting from the insurance will pay 5 percent of that, 5 percent of it. The public is paying 95 percent of it, and then it says, in '95, they will pay 10 percent of what they should be paying for themselves anyway, and in '96, 15 percent. Over a period of 20 years, finally after 20 years, they will be