

a hundred times easier than the small station can pay the five, much less the 15. If you want to...if you want to wipe them out, vote for the Johnson amendment. If you want to maintain the sort of integrity of the system we started out with, then I think you stick with the amendment that Senator Robak and I offered earlier. I would oppose Senator Rod Johnson's amendment, not that I'm not concerned about the fund, you bet your life I am, but I'm telling you again the rip off on the fund is going to come above the 25,000, not between the five and the 15,...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...those who are not going to be the professionals at it that the others are. I oppose the Johnson amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Further discussion? Senator Rod Johnson. Yours is the only light on, do you wish to use this as your closing?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Yeah.

SPEAKER BAACK: Okay.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: . I'm sure that the body is thoroughly disgusted with this issue so their...their interest in this issue has probably waned. But the point I want to make and the point that has not been made to this point is that we're not just talking about what we, as a State Legislature, want to do. This fund has to be approved by the EPA. We may not like that. We may not want that but that's the reason 409 was introduced to begin with was because we had to get our fund up to what they considered it to be viable, that we had financial assurance for our tank operators both large and small. And, by the way, Senator Robak, you asked the question earlier about...about deadlines or milestones, well, there are some milestones. Operators who have 13 to 99 tanks must have financial assurance by April 26th of 1991 and operators with one to 12 tanks must have financial assurance shown to EPA by October 26th of 1991. So we're talking about some short milestones that have to be met. Now, I'm arguing that with the Schmit amendment, as it has now been adopted on the bill, there is a question whether our fund will be adopted or approved by EPA. We may not like that. We may think we're doing the right thing but what we do is we