

in the bill. That's just simply not the intent of the amendment. What it does again, it does impose 4 dollars a ton on fertilizer. What it also does is it makes it a complete exemption from or complete rebate of any sales tax on any farm machinery bought. There's a trade-off there. You're getting a little bit extra. It also gets rid of the energy tax which had been or is currently in the bill at this time. It also adds a reverse severability clause in the items that Senator Warner talked about. The amendment, as I mentioned, was an attempt by some of the urban senators to try to work out this problem, to try to get something that would be acceptable to some of the rural senators. Frankly, LB 1063, if it's going to be acceptable, is acceptable enough to me right now. If the amendment's adopted I'll still vote for the bill. If the amendment's not adopted I'll still vote for the bill. The question is how many votes is it going to bring on for other people? How much is it going to spread the burden around rather than imposing it just on those people who use the energy? It's simply...it's simply not any personal vendetta on my part. It's not...there is no personal interest in the amendment other than trying to get the number of votes. With that, I'm going to urge that the amendment be adopted and I'll give the balance of my time to Senator Schrock, if he'd like to comment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Madam President, members of the Legislature, thank you, Senator Lindsay. I'll briefly say that this tax I think is going to be a lot easier to administer for farmers. I don't like to pay tax on fertilizer, obviously. Why would anyone like to pay a tax? But there's so many taxes on energy and it's hard to separate rural from residential from agriculture and this just seems a lot easier to administer. Everybody's going to pay a little bit. As far as the border bleeding is concerned, in the springtime you see these pickups pulling these compressed...these trailers down the road with these compressed tanks on it. There's two ton of anhydrous ammonia in those trailers. For 8 (sic) dollars a ton I don't think you're going to drive to the border to buy very much fertilizer, for 4 dollars a ton. That's 8 dollars a load. You're not going to drive very far to get your fertilizer across the border. If that possibility exists, I'd like to see something done to maybe keep that fertilizer from coming in without a tax being paid on it. But I don't see that as a big problem. Maybe it should be addressed. But this is much more