

the fertilizer tax is already there. But this is a tax I think everyone can live with and I think having a Coke for the teachers is a good slogan. So I support this amendment. Thank you.

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. Senator Wesely.

**SENATOR WESELY:** Mr. Speaker, members, I would rise in opposition to the amendment. You know we could come up with different slogans, a Coke for the teachers, pop for the teachers, looking to pop to pop for the salary increase, but I...and it's not that I oppose this. If we get this adopted I'll support the amendment, I mean I'll support the bill. But I still come back to the logic of why we propose the language that is now in the bill, that the LB 1059 which I opposed and one of the reasons I opposed was the one cent, excuse me, 1 percent sales tax increase of going into the Highway Trust Fund I objected to among other provisions of the bill. I did vote against it. I did find that that argument was placed before people and I think a lot of people were concerned, but they ended up overwhelmingly continuing with LB 1059, but I don't think that indicates that they were concerned about some of the money being diverted into the Highway Trust Fund and I personally see the logic of maintaining the bill in its current form. I have no problem with recognizing that one cent of the sales tax increase went into the Highway Trust Fund when it should have gone into education. It amounts to about the money that we need for the teachers salary. I'm comfortable with the bill the way it is and so I won't vote against other amendments whatever form they take but the idea that I'm okay the way the bill is, if other amendments are adopted like this one that people seem to be more comfortable with, I'll support those because I want to see the teachers salary go up, but I don't have any problem the way it is structured now and I'd oppose this amendment because of that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Haberman.

**SENATOR HABERMAN:** Mr. President, members of the body, I oppose the amendment for this reason. It seems to me that this body or some members of this body have lost contact with the average citizen. They do not want any tax increases. However, we have increased the fertilizer tax, now we want to increase the pop tax. They say this is for a good cause. That's fine, but I oppose any method or any issue that raises taxes on the citizens