

April 1, 1992

LB 1063A, 1063

that wrong because then you add water and then that's the inactive ingredient and that, you're not being taxed on that, but yet in dry fertilizer.... Is there a difference between liquid and dry then?

SENATOR WARNER: In the tax?

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Yes.

SENATOR WARNER: Not per ton.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: You're paying, yeah, you're paying more tax on the dry fertilizer than you are on a liquid for active ingredient?

SENATOR WARNER: No. If you're talking about if we're using nitrogen as the ingredient, the way the amendment was offered, was four dollars per ton, which in the case of anhydrous you're talking 82 percent nitrogen, in dry you would be talking 33 percent generally, although that can be gotten in different levels, and you're talking liquid is 28 percent nitrogen and so I'm anticipating that your question would be that the amount of tax per pound of nitrogen, because it's on the gross weight of the material, is not equal, to which I would agree that is true, but that was the way the amendment was offered.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Okay, I just wanted to establish that so I could explain it better to the farmers that have been contacting me about it and, also, again I wanted to make clear to the body that I don't believe the numbers run for 1063 on the fertilizer tax included compost in that number and Senator Warner says he believes not. He believes that that number was not included and I would like to find out from those that would know for sure because I am really concerned about what we're trying to do with compost and we made reference to lime, I believe it was, that now costs four dollars a ton and you want to tax it four dollars a ton. Compost could be in the same situation.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: I think we can do some really good things with compost and I want to...I, personally, think compost should not be included in this tax and I want to clarify that I don't feel it was included in the fiscal estimates and, thus, should not be included in the tax. Thank you.