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LB 719A, 1063

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Warner. That addresses my concern because while I support this effort, certainly, Senator Hefner, and if it comes up to Senator Warner's, in this particular thing because we created, by using the definitional section of statutes in the creation of the amendments to LB 106J, an unintentional situation. Soil conditioners by definition are composted materials, sewage sludge, composted manures, anything that has a guaranteed type of analysis amounted to approximately 5,000 tons last year out of about one and three-quarter million tons and in impact it is thirty two-hundredths of one percent of the fertilizer sold last year were classified as soil conditioners and this was a question that took a little bit of digging to find the answer to. So the net impact fiscally of this amendment is almost nothing. It's something that we really can't calculate on the total impact of the bill and it then does not, if we take soil conditioners out, it doesn't provide the roadblock that currently exists in law for using composted materials of any type and encouraging recycling of lawn waste, the mixing of manure perhaps in with those and providing an organic material to be used to apply to soil for the purposes of growing flowers or crops or whatever, so I would support the Hefner amendment at this time. I think the additional language that is contained in Senator Warner's amendment would also be appropriate when that time comes. So this has almost no fiscal impact and it will not discourage then recycling of plant materials and animal materials for use as soil adjuvants.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR COORDSEN: I support the amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members, I also rise to support this amendment. I just wanted to make the point that when we were trying to work out a compromise of the fertilizer tax over the energy tax, we did not even consider this compost issue. That was never part of the discussion and it was our understanding at that time that it was not going to be part of the issue. But in looking at the definition of fertilizer, we found out afterwards that this was in the actual definition and so it's a good amendment that we take it out. It