

et cetera. But at least if we adopt this amendment, we will tax the fertilizer based upon the active ingredients in a ton, not upon the gross ingredients. I think it's a fair amendment. I think it's one that ought to be adopted and I want to assure you again that it will not have any significant impact adversely upon the revenue that is raised this year because most of the fertilizer that's been purchased this year has been purchased prior to April 1. I would suggest that we will have several other opportunities in this coming year to adjust this anyway because I believe really we're going to be back in session again after the primary and at that time we may have a multitude of other problems we'll try to correct, this being one of them, but at least we ought to adopt this amendment and do so for the reasons I have given.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Senator Warner on the Schmit amendment.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, again, there are two provisions in the proposed amendment, the one dealing with water content is already in the proposed legislation. That portion was contained in the amendment the other day so the only issue I believe, this, is the one that deals with the active ingredients and, as Senator Schmit pointed out, someone would suggest that leaving the fee at 4 dollars against active ingredients will, in fact, cause a shortage of revenue from what was anticipated by those who came up with this idea to the General Fund and I'm sure that is a fact. I believe, as I recall, and I... Senator Cudaback, when he offered a motion, he had increased the fee on the active ingredients, it seems to me 6 dollars but I'm not absolutely certain, but it seems to me, which at least was an effort to, in part, avoid the reduction in revenue, but it's probably accurate to state that, because of the dates of implementation and the ordering of fertilizer, the revenue may be somewhat less than what had been estimated. To do this, it would be even significantly more of a shortfall, which its resulting General Fund problems, as far as the state is concerned, less likely to meet minimum reserve and obviously add to the problems that were discussed earlier this morning on the first bill that we had on Final Reading, the gap between revenue and receipts that's going to...or between revenue and expenditures that is likely to occur next session. So, while I don't disagree with the logic of tying a fee, in some extent to ingredients, I'm not aware of any information which will enable us to make a determination of what that fee