

SENATOR CUDABACK: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I did have an amendment last Friday to change the current tax from 4 dollars to 6 dollars. This would be in answer to Senator Withem's question, would that have balanced out, and that would have balanced out and that was the agreement and I wholeheartedly agree with him on that issue. If we were going to change the structure, then it had to work out internally so it would offset whatever we do. Senator Schmit's idea is a great one, along with many of the rest of the senators who wish to make it more uniform. The intent was not to discriminate or make it unfair at the time. We did it, as I said, in haste. We rather rushed through it but, unfortunately, that's the way it is. The wheels are in motion. The wheels are in motion and rather than go back and change it and cause more confusion, and unfortunately we can't do that to our people again. They're going to wonder what we were doing, where we're at, do we know what we're doing. Let's leave it at 4 dollars. Senator Schrock has a study coming up this summer. We will restructure it then come up with a solution to correct the problem that we know exists, so I guess I would, unfortunately, be against the amendment of Senator Schmit's. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK PRESIDING

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Senator Schmit, you're next.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I always kind of like to contrast what goes on on this floor. We're looking at a two hundred and fifty or seventy-five page amendment that Senator Warner brought to us to uncobble the cobbled up messes which they have in 1063 and Senator Withem is righteously indignant with Senator Warner and the rest of them, said we can't do this. Senator Schrock and Senator Cudaback, with their experience, come along and say, well, of course, we did this in a hurry. I wasn't in on the deal, Senator Schrock, that was cut underneath the balcony, but I went to country school and I learned the difference between 21 percent and 82 percent and I can still calculate it and I don't need a study for that. I can do it here on the floor (snaps fingers) like that. I sat on the sale barn sideline many times and calculated how much money it cost me to buy a hundred head of cattle at twenty-one and a quarter if they weighed 769 a pound. That's what you learn in the business of farming and agriculture. That's what we ought to learn on this floor. What