

SENATOR BEUTLER: This one has to do with, again, with the syntax of the original sentence which I think can be corrected better in a different way so I would withdraw that amendment also.

SPEAKER WITHEM: It is withdrawn.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Hall would move to amend the bill. (FA173 may be found on page 1859 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President and members, the amendment that is on the desk that the Clerk has deals with page 2 of the bill and it merely does this. On line 6, after the word "life" it places a period, then it strikes the balance of line 6, all of line 7 and all of line 8. It's a very simple amendment. If you just look at it, you just put a period after "animal life" and then strike the balance of that paragraph. So it would read, "Section 1, sales and use tax shall not be imposed on the gross receipts from the sale, lease, rental of the storage, use or other consumption in the state of feed, water, veterinary medicines and agricultural chemicals for consumption by, to be used on or which are otherwise used in caring for any form of animal life." In other words the sales tax would not be charged on any animal fee, on any veterinary medicines for purposes of caring for any form of animal life. We take the argument that it is good for purposes of caring for animals, that the prevention of disease and sickness makes sense in terms of animal life and we just say that that is good tax policy for the state. In other words, we strip away the issue that talks about constituting food for human consumption. And what does this mean? It means that the local vet down on South 24th Street doesn't have to collect sales tax for veterinary medicines. It means that the dog chow that you buy at the store doesn't have to have sales tax paid on it and I mean if the argument is that the prevention of disease and the betterment of animals is a good reason for not having sales tax because we want to keep them healthy, then I don't know why it doesn't apply to all animals whether we eat them or not. And the fact of the matter is that there is a real question about the definition of what ordinarily constitutes food for human consumption. I mean, depending on, ...and Senator Preister, you are not going to like this, but I could take you to a couple