

listen and would also have the opportunity to visit with some of the neighbors who can express to you, in a more personal way, those concerns that they feel are not being addressed in the bill. This section of the bill, I think you have heard from me and know now the intent and the consequences of it, to create a two-mile buffer between existing game refuges and areas where people could, not just hunt, and I think again it's important to distinguish between hunting, where you have fewer people, a much shorter period of time, with a controlled shooting area we're talking seven months time, we're talking in many cases, in addition to the actual hunting, we're talking, whether it's skeet or trap shooting, but ongoing shooting at different periods of time when there is not only the noise, but in these areas where there may not be and there may be also adjoining water, the lead shot may still be used, not only the steel shot but the lead, which we know has been a danger to water fowl and has also been of concern to feeding eagles and other birds. So we have an area here that is of concern to the welfare of these birds in particular, but to all of the other animals that would be creating their habitat and their sustenance for raising their young and for their livelihood and propagation in these areas. I think it's important that we set aside some buffer. If two miles is too far, then I would suggest we come up with something that is...I started with five miles and that, I was told, wasn't reasonable. Two miles is my effort at compromise and I would hope that we could do that. If that's not the case, then perhaps that's too far and perhaps I'll need to go to one mile and see if it's the will of the body to at least create a buffer of one mile between these areas. I would hope that we could go with two miles. I know that the sound travels farther than that, I know that the habits of the animals can be impacted at that distance and thus I submit this section of the amendment to you and ask for your favorable consideration on this section. With that, I will conclude my conclusion. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: You've heard the closing. The question before the body is the adoption of this portion of the Preister amendment. All in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. While we're waiting for people to record their vote, I would like to recognize guests under the north balcony, guests of the Legislature and Senator Schellpeper. We have Gertrude and Dennis Pohlman from Lincoln, Carol Witte from Rolling Hills, California, Astrid Teuber from Iserlohn, Germany, Leni Loschmann from Iserlohn, Germany, and Bonnie Anderson from Mechanicsville, Virginia. Would you please stand and be recognized. Senator