

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

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CLERK: Madam President, Senator Redfield would move to amend with FA120. (FA120, Legislative Journal page 1705.)

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Redfield, to open on your amendment.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Madam Chairman, members of the body. We've had a lot of discussion as to who should receive the benefit of this bill and I know everyone was getting a little weary, but a lot of concern was expressed about the beginner farmer actually seeing any benefit and what this amendment does is it gives a 5 percent credit to the beginning farmer, the same credit that is given to the retiring farmer or the owner of the property. It does not take anything away from the credit which goes to the owner, but it does give an incentive to a beginner farmer to come into the land and start farming. I think that our biggest concern is the fact that we're trying to encourage people to move out to the rural areas to increase the population there, and I believe that we are amiss if we don't try in some regards to give a credit or some incentive to the beginner farmer. This gives them the same credit that we're giving to the owner. It's a 5 percent credit on their income tax. And there have been some questions raised as to whether they would actually be able to accrue this credit because we don't know if their income is going to be sufficient to have a tax liability. That may be the case, but if that is the case it won't hurt us to pass it because it will cost us nothing. But if, in fact, they can use this credit on their family income we will have achieved our goal here in encouraging the beginning farmer. I would ask you to seriously consider this and vote for the amendment.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Redfield. Discussion on the Redfield amendment, Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Madam Speaker and members, and members of the body, I'm not sure how I am on this. I guess...I guess I'm neutral. The problem is it potentially could add to the cost of the bill, as I understand it, and I don't really necessarily want to do that. On the other hand, I understand that the amendment probably does no harm. I didn't have a chance to study it but, Senator Redfield, would you explain just one more time the...it...there is some benefits to the beginning