

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 870

very much. I appreciate your support of the amendment.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: You've heard the closing. The question before the body is the adoption of the Dierks amendment to LB 870. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Please record.

CLERK: 35 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator Dierks' amendment.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: The amendment is agreed upon.

CLERK: Senator Beutler would move to amend with AM1866, Mr. President. (AM1866, Legislative Journal pages 2225-2226.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Beutler, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, AM1866 is an amendment that's been worked out with the producer groups that are interested in this bill. Those discussions included Senator Schrock and Senator Preister and others, and I'm grateful to all of them for the time that they've spent on this. If this particular amendment meets with your agreement...and I'll describe it to you at some length here...the agreement, at least on the part of those who happen to be involved in this, is that there would be no further amendments offered by those parties to the bill, and we would proceed from that point in time. The amendment involves a few compromises on everybody's part. But interestingly enough, I think it involved less compromise than it did a kind of sorting through and refining and relating of different parts of the amendment so that everybody agreed as to what it...as to what it actually said. So I would describe the amendment in some measurable part as being a simple realignment and refining and reconfiguration of the different concepts that are in LB 870. Let me say what the amendment does not do first of all, so that we don't get worried about some things that are not involved. It keeps the exemption for small producers just as it has been in the bill. So nothing in that regard, I don't believe, is affected in any substantial way. Secondly, it continues to allow existing facilities to be treated differently by DEQ, and that's made more explicit, in fact. But at the same time, it