

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

March 28, 2000 LB 1234

CLERK: Just as fast as we can type it in, Senator.

SENATOR BROMM: Okay.

CLERK: Okay?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Bromm, you are recognized to open on your amendment. (FA355, Legislative Journal pages 1406-1407.)

SENATOR BROMM: Let me...let me advise the body, Mr. President and colleagues, that AM3140 says that the section that we've been dealing with that requires ethanol to be offered for sale at the lowest octane, that that section would not apply to any retailer at a location with two or fewer fuel storage tanks available for retail sale of motor fuel until, and the original amendment said July 1 of 2001. After talking with a few members on the floor, the idea of that date was to give us time to analyze the effect of this on the small two-storage tank stations. The substituted amendment says until January 1 of 2002, so it would be well after the next legislative session, before new laws would go into effect. New laws would go into effect before this beginning date of this requirement for the smaller stations. If you have two or fewer fuel storage tanks, I certainly think you're probably going to be a modest supplier of fuel, probably fairly low volume. I would be concerned about requiring this to go into effect immediately for these stations, not immediately but as soon as the rest of the bill, October 1 of 2000, I think they'll be faced with a decision of either spending some money, perhaps not offering some product that their people are used to buying, or going out of business. And none of those options are very attractive to me, particularly in places where there are very few service stations. Now, Senator Chambers and I talked about the station across the street. This doesn't...this would not apply to them, they are not that kind of station. But the point is that they're someone who has been in business for 50 years and they've done a fantastic job. And any station like that, you certainly want to give them every opportunity to succeed. And one of the things that I would like to look at, between now and the time that this amendment would go into effect for the smaller stations, would be whether we could perhaps take a lesson from some of those states that have offered some incentives for those who have to make changes in