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SENATOR KOPPLIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. I rise to speak on a couple of issues. I've noted in this particular session that we can start off with one issue, and as long as we get something in about it, we can kind of drift off to other things. And that might happen, so I apologize ahead of time. Who knows? First of all, I want to say that the underlying bill which Senator Schrock brought to us is needed. We need to do this. If people are putting in their time and their work, we need to pay them. I'll also support Senator Chambers' motion later on in getting the wording correct I may support Senator Beutler's amendment. thinking on it. It doesn't exactly fit what this bill says, but it does deal with the water problem and we need to deal with I'm a little bit concerned about the status of the water bills. We have water bills in committee yet that we can't get We're discussing how we might deal with the Kansas problem, and others would tell us there isn't a problem; it will go away. I'm not going to support paying anybody to not irrigate when they probably shouldn't have put a well in to begin with. I notice that the discussions now are, well, let's take water out of Harlan County Dam, give it to Kansas. sure Kansas will take that, but that doesn't mean they aren't going to come back and say, yeah, but you owe us more. But I would like to bring something else to your attention. You know, we've been operating kind of under the "Ernie" tax. Now, to me, that's kind of a property tax because, like any property owner, if I don't like the tax I can go to the county commissioners and so on and then cajole them, beg them, to say, lower my tax. And if they're in a good mood, they will do that. I think you can do that same thing here if you're...if the "Ernie" tax comes up. We can...we can maybe exact a lesser tax if we do this, but one tax leads to another and I'm going to tell you there's another one on the table and I call it the "Koppie" tax, K-o-p-p-i-e; not copy tax, "Koppie" tax. It's a different kind of a tax. It's an inheritance tax because I can tell you I am so honored to have worked with Senator Schrock on the water issues, with the rest of the Legislature, but if you can't solve these problems this year, and I know it's going to rain again and some of these problems will go away, but I inherit them next year along with my other freshmen colleagues and 20 new people, and