

Hannibal and I have been discussing Senator Marsh's amendment. Basically this amendment is the same proposal that was incorporated in LB 29 which the Agriculture and Environment Committee choose to indefinitely postpone. At the testimony before the hearing Wally Barnett, the State Fire Marshall, came over and testified and told the committee basically that he felt that the things that Senator Marsh wants to have accomplished are being accomplished by the rules and regs. that they are working under, and that the bill was basically not necessary. We've been talking with individuals about how this bill will affect, or how this amendment may affect the industry. There are cases where there are above ground storage tanks that have been grandfathered in before when this amendment was law at one time, then inadvertently taken out. I understand Senator Marsh would like to put it back in, but under this amendment those filling stations probably would have to bury those tanks then at a cost, I assume, to be pretty substantial. I think we need to take that into consideration, that there is a financial impact. Based on the adoption of this amendment, if it is adopted, we are trying to find out more information about the impact that this amendment would have on the industry as a whole. So I guess at this time I'm not enthusiastic about the amendment. The committee chose not to advance LB 29. We felt that that was probably the best way to go at this time. However, if this body chooses to adopt this amendment I guess I can live with it, but I do want to warn you that this will have a financial impact on certain filling stations that currently do have above ground storage tanks in their facilities. There are a couple, and I can't give you the specific locations of those stations, but I believe if you got ahold of Mr. Barnett he probably could tell you exactly where those stations are located. Take into consideration that there is an economic impact to the passage of this amendment. Possibly Senator Hannibal or Senator Abboud might be able to speak to the amendment as well.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Abboud, then Senator Hannibal.

SENATOR ABOUD: (Response inaudible.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Excuse me, Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Yes. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise in opposition to Senator Marsh's