

particular point in time in history the problem is exacerbated because of the fact that a great many tanks that were put in the in forties and early fifties and mid-fifties with 25 and 30 and 35 year life spans are now deteriorating badly and causing an increased problem in terms of leakage. I have passed out to you or there will be passed out to you just shortly, a set of exhibits that illustrate the problem in Nebraska. There is a description from the Department of Health that describes for you, gives you a narrative description of the problem, and there is also a chart in this set of exhibits that I hope you will take a look at that gives the history of leakage incidents in Nebraska over the last four or five year period and I think maybe Senator Landis might take you through that chart a little bit a little later. The bill itself deals with, as I indicated to you, a complete system. First of all, it contains a permanent system in order to install all new tanks so that for the first time in the State of Nebraska we are going to require the registration of underground storage tanks and basically under the bill, the way it is right now, it would be all underground storage tanks with a capacity of 1,000 gallons or more. Going to require that they be registered. Right now we don't even know how many underground storage tanks there are in the State of Nebraska. It has been estimated by state agencies that there may be as many as 30,000 but that estimate may be off considerably in one direction or another. So for the first time there will be a permit system, the kinds of tanks that can be installed, the materials, the method of installation, the location, all will be regulated for the first time so as to maximize and hopefully preclude the leakage into the underground water level. The annual registration fee which is provided for under the amendment that will be forthcoming will be based upon the size of the tank. It will vary depending upon the size of the tank and those fees will be collected and they will be put into a special cash fund or revolving fund and they will be used to clean up leakages or spillages that occur from time to time in the state where the owner or operator of the particular leaking facility cannot himself or herself pay for the cleanup.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Excuse me, Senator Beutler. (Gave.) Would you please hold your conversation down so that we can hear. It is becoming quite annoying. Thank you, Senator Beutler.