

trying to make sure that the language is appropriately drafted. I will yield the remainder of my time to Senator Coordsen, my cosponsor of this amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Landis, Madam Speaker, Madam President, pardon me. There are a lot of words said about agriculture, farmers on the floor of the Legislature the last few days, some of which I do not take altogether that kindly. I would remind you that there is one member of this body who farms alone by himself in addition to representing his district and I do not take kindly to criticism of devious maneuvers or deal cutting. Now, to this amendment. I would remind the body that the Lindsay amendment increased the credit for sales tax on new and used farm equipment from 4 percent to 5 percent. It was felt by many of us that the energy tax included in the original compromise amendment was not an appropriate mechanism to raise money, nor one that was easily understandable, nor easily collected either by the people who provided these services, nor those who received them. If we're looking at a means of recapturing which seems to be one of the mandates here the last week or so, a portion of the sales tax monies, then the mechanism that is contained in the Lindsay amendment via the tax on fertilizer is more appropriate because it follows more closely the types of farming operations that would be receiving the benefits of the sales tax operation. That's all it is, pure and simple. The amendment that we're adopting or hopefully adopt tonight is corrective language to that effort. It changes nothing, it changes not the fees, it addresses the problem that Senator Rasmussen had on behalf of the small retailers as an addendum but it simply corrects language and makes this system work. It was my impression last evening that placing the tax as a responsibility of the wholesalers to pay was the cleaner, neater system. We were made aware that that was not going to work very well because of a set of circumstances that we did not know last night that exists within that industry. The proposal then before us is the adoption of an amendment to bring the language to a situation where it would accomplish the goal of revenue collecting...

SPEAKER BAACK PRESIDING

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.