

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I, too, rise in support of the Schellpeper amendment. I think the amendment has been explained fairly well and the reasons for supporting it. Essentially, I think, while there certainly is a good degree of sympathy in my mind, I think in everybody's mind for the goals that Senator Haberman is attempting to accomplish with this bill, the fact is that the introduction of an identification number, at this point, is probably taking it a step farther than the system itself is ready to deal with right now. What Schellpeper...what the Schellpeper amendment does is retain the requirement in the Haberman amendment that an individual purchasing a keg over a certain size has to have his name, the date of the sale, information regarding the identification of that individual recorded, and a record of that maintained by the retailer that's selling the keg. So at least there is a degree of responsibility in the...in the event that a keg is misused or turns up at a function where it's improper for that keg to be. I think that the reasons have been outlined very well by Senator Schellpeper and Senator Hartnett why this is probably...it's too great a step to take at this time to use the identification number. Primarily, at the manufacturing and at the retail level, kegs, at this point, are treated as universal commodities, they are...Anheuser-Busch, for example, when they sell a keg, when they ship out a keg of beer to a retailer, they simply...their only concern is that they get back the same number of kegs and the same sizes as those that they shelled out. They don't care if it's the exact same keg or not. And, frankly, to start identifying individual kegs that are mass produced is probably taking it a step beyond that with which the business community is able to cope at this point. I mean, certainly, if that was a proposal that was across the nation or industrywide, it's probably something that could be coped with. But at this point, I think it's an unnecessary cost of doing business. Probably the Haberman amendment, with the Schellpeper amendment attached, is the proper way to go on this piece of legislation. I think that it does address the concern to a degree that's proper, that's correct for the state to become involved, but stops short of a...of requiring the identification number that I don't think the system is ready to handle at this point. I would urge your support for the Schellpeper amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Will. Senator Schellpeper, you're next.