

main culprit. Maybe in connection with some other bills that are looked at, we might take this into consideration.

PRESIDENT: Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: Mr. President, members of the body. To paraphrase Senator John DeCamp yesterday talking about Senator Maresh's bill, when he said this is our first new property tax, this bill is our first new sales tax that we're going to face. This bill is also our first new major expenditure of tax dollars that we're going to face. If you look at the fiscal note on this bill it indicates that at least \$390,000 of its first year comes from the General Fund. What that means is that it's state tax revenue, that's not the cash funds or the money that would be generated from the new tax. So to get this bill started it's not a self-sustaining thing in its first or second year. It's going to take some of our state tax dollars. We are facing then today a decision about a \$400,000 expenditure before we've heard the Governor's budget message and just at the time the Appropriations Committee is just beginning to hear other appropriations. In looking through the fiscal note we notice that one of the things that is to be bought with this money is seven million litter bags, two million the first year, five million the second. That's a little more than four litter bags for every man, woman and child in the State of Nebraska. It seems to me a little excessive, and perhaps we could save money simply by tying one litter bag to each person, saving 5.5 litter bags that would not have to be used. As Senator DeCamp pointed out with Senator Maresh's bill yesterday, there are a lot of things that we ought to look at before we start a new tax. I think there are a lot of things that we ought to look at before we spend \$400,000. I agree with Senator Dworak that there are some good concepts in this bill. But I'm not ready to buy the whole package. I don't think that it covers all of the items that Senator Schmit believes it does. In reading over on page nine of the bill it seems to cover a lot of things, but I don't see refrigerators, bedsprings, or those things mentioned in the list. They may be elsewhere in the bill, but I don't think so. I think the tax is on small consumer items, it doesn't cover some of the major things, and certainly I do not see any mention of a tax on cars, etc. I guess a point is that this is a fairly significant bill. It is fairly far-reaching. I don't think that we fully understand what is in it. There is some confusion as to what it covers. I don't think that we should be spending \$400,000 to buy 7 million litter bags. I think that we should take a long, hard look at this bill before we move it on.

PRESIDENT: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. President, members of the body. A question of Senator Schmit, if he would yield.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I yield, Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: On page nine, where you define sources of income, you say "household paper and paper products". Does this mean all paper products, regardless of who is the producer of that product?