

SENATOR HALL: Okay. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Sorry. Thank you. Senator Rod Johnson, please, further discussion.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker and members, I concur with the points that Senator Hall was making and that's been one of the first that I have done so far this year in respect to his comments. But part of the reason that I opposed the bill, as Senator Hall had indicated, that there are some deficiencies I see in the bill that I simply felt that I couldn't support it on those grounds. The major point I would like to make is...and Senator Hall was talking about particular menu items. This bill doesn't require that the restaurant post the sign that lists the type of oils that might be used in the preparation of each individual dish. All it has to basically do is list the various types of oils that are going to be used in that restaurant in the preparation of the food. So if I order a particular item off of the restaurant menu, I am not sure what type of oil was necessarily going to be used in that particular menu item without actually asking the waitress or waiter what type of oil is being used in preparation of this particular dish. So giving away trade secrets really is not part of this bill. All this bill really does is force the establishment to list the kinds of oils, not necessarily breaking them down into how they are used in each individual item listed on the menu. I commend Senator Hefner and restaurateurs, such as himself, who voluntarily do this. I think that that is the route that should be taken rather than passing state law to do this. I think that if there is a market niche out there for low cholesterol food, for low sodium type food, then I assume that free enterprise will begin filling that void if there is a void out there for that. Barring that, if I go into a restaurant, currently I can ask the waitress or waiter what type of oil is being used. Sometimes they are going to know, sometimes they are not. But I think that if I was concerned enough about my health that I wanted to know, I could probably take the time to find out right at this particular time and I think that those who are concerned will ask. And I guess that's the route I see us going. And, as I said, I think men and women who operate restaurants now probably are going to be doing more of that. You are seeing more of that listed on menus, in some cases, listed on posters in restaurants now, and that's being done voluntarily. So I really don't see the need for moving on the bill to force all of our restaurants and there are a lot of small restaurants in the State of