

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Right, considerably narrows it to largely water and wastewater treatment initiatives, transmission lines and mains, hazardous waste disposal, resource recovery systems.

SENATOR HALL: Okay, thank you very much. So even though we are dealing with a MRF bill, municipal infrastructure system, something like that, we are talking about excluding bridges, municipal roads, streets, highways, parking facilities, anything other than...basically, we are narrowing it down to just specifically water and water treatment systems. I would join Senator Landis and Senator Schellpeper in opposing this amendment because I think it clearly is a very substantive amendment with regard to the issue of where the money that would be collected through this could be used. I will continue to oppose the bill, but if you are going to have the bill come out in a form that I think allows for that money to be used in an appropriate manner, as the cities feel that it is necessary, or the local entities of government feel is necessary for them to use it, it should at least include, I think, some of the things that Senator Scofield's amendment would exclude, bridges, roads, streets. I don't have any problem with listing those in there as an appropriate use for these funds, but the issue here is one of do we include them or do we exclude them and do we limit this money to primarily just water treatment and resource projects, and I would argue that that is not a good limitation at this point in time. There may be very many communities who support this bill, but at this point in time did not do that based on the fact that their resources would be limited to the specific items that the Scofield amendment would spell out and those that it would exclude. So I think if you were to adopt this amendment, you could very well see a number of those communities that had supported this measure very well fall off, and maybe that is a good reason to adopt it if you don't want to see the bill pass. I don't intend to continue to change my opposition to the bill at any point in time because I just don't think we should be shifting that resource of the cigarette tax over to this purpose. But if you are going to shift, you ought to shift and allow for the types of enterprises or operations that the bill would, in its original form, allow for. So I would urge the body to oppose Senator Scofield's amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Withem, followed by Senator Abboud.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yeah, I originally turned my light on to ask questions of Senator Scofield about specific types of projects