

SENATOR MOORE: Yes, Mr. Speaker and members. It is that time of year when we start placing the balls on the Christmas tree, I guess, and next week we will see even more of this. I really don't think I have any big problem with Senator Rod Johnson's amendment or bill, it is LB 163. I hope everybody in the body realizes, and I want Senator Johnson to respond to this. Now oftentimes, I remember last year I think one of the big ones last year was a little increase in fee we gave to the ham radio licensed operators. It was one of those things where you didn't think much of it. It came back to haunt us. And I guess, Senator Johnson, the way I understand it, this will be \$1 on every new tire sold. Are you projecting \$2 million, is that correct, Senator Johnson?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Yes, that is what we have been told from Revenue.

SENATOR MOORE: Is this one of those bills that I vote for that I am going to regret come enactment date in August?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: That is up to you, Senator. I can't answer your own question.

SENATOR MOORE: Well, I mean I guess I am asking...I mean is it something that everybody is aware of. I see there was a line, a long line of people supporting the bill. Now I am assuming, there is someone in there that sells tires that has given the blessing to this bill, is that correct?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: That is correct. We have been working with Mr. T.O. Haas, who is the owner and operator of T.O. Haas Tire Company here in Lincoln, and several other folks, but, yes, they see a very serious problem with the disposal of tires in the state. There are, quite frankly, a couple of different options that I can think of for funding sources. One, of course, would be something close to you and that is the General Fund support, which we have not been able to secure funding from that. So we wanted a separate, independent revenue source that was sustainable and could be counted on from year to year, so that is why we selected this route.

SENATOR MOORE: But the fee is on tires and everything, but the tire fee is going to make up the bulk of what goes into this fund, is that correct?