

steps that we could take. This is a minor step towards a big problem and we're going to have to address that problem by taking quite a few small steps and this will go a long ways in affecting the people's mind set, realizing that trash is a problem in this state and in this country and that we have to start addressing it now. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I wasn't able to hear everything Senator Morrissey said and I don't know if he thinks that my position is making light of what is being attempted. What I'm talking about is priorities. It's very easy for us, as a Legislature, to try to give the impression that we're leading the way on something, but those issues on which we choose to lead the way are insignificant in terms of what it is that we do. We can do things by legislation. We don't have to pass nonbinding resolutions that don't mean anything. Now if you pass this resolution and I come up here with a styrofoam cup, what is going to happen to me? Is the Sergeant at Arms going to come down here and try to take it away from me? Are you going to send an armed state trooper to put a pistol on me and say, give it up, Senator Chambers, or are you going to find the ones who are members of the body who feel they are strong enough to whip me and maybe want to try it, to come over and say, get it out of here or we'll do this and thus and so? That's what I'm talking about. A lot of times resolutions come in and the purpose may be laudable but the Legislature, when it comes to the nub of serious problems, backs away. Senator Hefner wants corn products used. It takes more of a corn substance to produce one of these bags than it does plastic so you have more of it because it would be flimsier. It takes more of that to make a thicker bag and then if you put it in the landfills as they are dealt with now and it's packed down, it has...there is no access for sunlight, air or water. So even if it is so-called degradable, it will not degrade because a substance is necessary to act on it, will not impact on it. I can understand Senator Hefner wanting to do this as an economic boon for the farmers of this state, but we ought to call a thing what it is and not pretend by flying a false flag that we're concerned about the environment. I'd much rather hear Senator Hefner, if he is concerned about that, talk about these chemicals that threaten to contaminate the environment, the groundwater and even the products that are produced, but those things are not going to be touched because farmers want to