

the major funding source and take it away from helping those communities do something about their landfills, especially those 280 communities that right now are operating unlicensed landfills, they are simply going to have no resources to go to to assist them in planning or in developing new strategies, such as, regional or countywide landfill concepts, or transfer stations, or composting, or other kinds of things that need to be done to help bring this whole landfill issue into the twenty-first century, and Nebraska is lagging way behind other states. And not that I am opposed to doing something in the tire area, I think it is one of the most serious problems that we have. Tires do not stay buried. They have a tendency to rise back up to the surface as they expand and contract with the weather, and so they are not very good about being stayed buried, and when they are buried, since they are a petroleum-type product, they will cause contamination when they degrade. But the concern I have is that you are taking the pool, the greatest pool of the money and putting into one area, and I would not like to see that restricted to that one area. There has been some concern that if we are paying the major source of the funds into the program, then tires should be the higher priority as far as getting some of the funds to do some of the things, like waste incineration where we can burn these tires for energy. And as I said, there are plans underway to look at the feasibility of doing something like that at the University of Nebraska. And I would like to see some funds go to that area, but I don't want all the funds, or at least the great majority of them, to go in this one project because I see that there is a greater need for those funds in a lot of other areas besides just the tire recycling and reduction. So at this point, as I said, I am going to oppose the amendment and continue the discussion of this overall problem because I don't see a bigger problem facing most smaller communities in the 1990s than really this issue of solid waste reduction and management. And we have to start going down the path of developing a more comprehensive program in managing the solid waste problems we have in this state.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Schmit, please, followed by Senator Morrissey.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, and members, it is about recess time, and I would just like to say that it is a very serious question as to where do we raise the money. Senator Johnson very honestly said that the chances of getting General Fund