

by Senator Schmit.

PRESIDENT: I don't see Senator Schmit at the moment, do you, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Senator Schmit, your amendment, Senator, is AM2115.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, I would like to pull both of those amendments at this time. As I indicated earlier, I want to work with Senator Rod Johnson and Senator Morrissey and Senator Beck and others and see if we can't work out those amendments by Select File. If we can save some time and expedite the bill at this time, I believe it's in the best interest of all concerned. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: All right. Thank you. They are withdrawn at the moment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Hefner would move to amend the bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hefner, please.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, and members of the body, this amendment is printed on...printed in the Journal on page 346. What this would do is add a tax on disposable diapers, 10 cents per dozen. Remember last year when we were debating the degradable disposable diapers and we passed that law? Now I think it's time to add a tax on those that are not degradable. This will hurry the process along. This will say to those manufacturers that we are serious in getting the degradable disposable diapers marketed. At the present time, there are three companies that are marketing them. Their sales are growing by leaps and bounds. But I think that if we're going to put a tax on tires, well, why not put it on diapers, because diapers, especially the disposable diapers, constitute a huge portion of our landfill. But this would put a rate of 10 cents per dozen, and it would be collected by the Department of Revenue and they would draw up the rules and regulations for this. Okay, how much money will this raise? Well, I'm not an expert on this, but the Department of Health reports that in 1988 there were 23,904 live resident births in the state. And then estimating that 18,400 of the infants use nondegradable disposable diapers, that's less than...that's saying that disposable diapers would be used on 80 percent of the total