

senators who had pending amendments for temporarily withdrawing those. As I said, I would like to work with each and every one of them in a working session at my office to try and come up with some comprehensive strategy on how we incorporate all these ideas into 163. Let me just say that the topic of solid waste management is not something that you campaign on, it's not something you run for re-election on, but I think most of us are beginning to realize in this state that the day is coming when our current practices of disposing of waste, whether it happens to be in a licensed landfill or unlicensed landfill, is going to change. EPA standards are going to be coming down which are going to significantly alter the way that we dispose of waste in this state, in particular those communities under 5,000 that are currently operating unlicensed landfills. Now there are a lot of different ways of helping fund a grant program, and there are many states that have grant programs. And I'd just like to list off to you some of the means in which other states are funding their grant programs. There are some that fund their programs through state tax revenue, or the General Fund, landfill tipping fees, general obligation bonds, a number of them do that, tax on litter stream items, corporate franchise taxes, tire taxes, bottle taxes, just a number of others that are being utilized to generate dollars to put in a program for a grant loan program to help their communities handle this solid waste problem. As I said yesterday, I think that the solid waste issue will be one of the most significant issues facing rural communities, in particular in this state, in the 1990's. We have a long ways to go to catch up with what I think is going to be a number of tough standards that EPA and maybe DEC will be bringing down. And I am very supportive of what Senator Morrissey is talking about, providing a statewide comprehensive solid waste management plan so that we can give direction to our local municipalities onto how they can handle this waste problem. I think a number of smaller communities, at least in my area, are very seriously looking at going to either county or regionalwide landfills and getting out of the landfill business themselves. I think that probably is the way to go, in many cases. But I think the overall solution to the solid waste problem is going to be how much we can change society in taking a look at recycling, because that, in the end, is the only way that you reduce the waste in this country. I have some statistics that I will be sharing with you on Select File about how this state, this country, for that matter, is a throw-away society. And we have a lot of problems confronting us, not just in this state but others, on how we handle this problem. But for now I'd like