

SPEAKER BARRETT: It is withdrawn.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Hefner would move to amend. Senator, I have AM2356 in front of me. (See page 599 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Chair recognizes Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, and members of the body, I passed this amendment out a week or so ago. I also had it printed in the Journal and that is on page 599. This is amendment AM2356. This adds another subsection that says "Capital assistance for establishing private and public facilities to manufacture combustible waste products and to incinerate waste to generate and recover energy resources." Recycling is and will become more prominent. Each year it is growing. I told you the other day that I had a constituent in my district that has started a recycling plant in Yankton, South Dakota, and hopefully he will build another one in northeast Nebraska. But at the present time he is hauling garbage and solid waste from 14 or 15 small towns in northeast Nebraska to Yankton and processing it there. He separates the aluminum cans, the plastics, both degradable and nondegradable, and metal, and then he takes the combustible material, runs it through a big grinder, and pellets it, and then he sells these combustible pellets to a college located in Yankton there and also to a hospital. He has a contract with them. He is getting \$25 a ton. I have a sample of those pellets here. The BTUs in these pellets are...the BTUs in these pellets is more than in a pound or a ton of coal. So I feel we need to promote this in Nebraska, and by adding this subsection, I feel that it would certainly help it. This amendment would say that the Department of Environmental Control could use part of this fund for capital assistance for private or public facilities to manufacture combustible waste products and to incinerate waste to generate and recover energy sources. I just feel that we need a little seed money for a proposal such as this, and this part would compete for funds just like all the other needs that are listed in the bill. So I would urge for the adoption of this amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. For discussion purposes on the Hefner amendment, the Chair recognizes Senator Rod Johnson, followed by Senator Hartnett. Senator Johnson.