

a little bit different. I think they figure that with a 10 cent per dozen tax that we could have...could raise approximately eight hundred and some thousand dollars a year and maybe on up to a million dollars a year. But that would certainly help to fund that we're...the money that we're trying to generate in this fund. Also, in this bill a small retail business will also furnish some of the money, \$25 for the smaller businesses, \$50 for the larger ones. So you can see that the small retail business is going to bear the brunt of this program. It's real serious but I feel that if we...when we eventually get to more degradable diapers, well, then we can compost them so they won't be a problem or as much of a problem in our landfill operations. So I would urge that you would support me in adopting this amendment.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Senator Rod Johnson, on the Hefner amendment.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President and members, this was one issue in the compromise meetings that we had in my office on this issue that we could not reach agreement on and Senator Hefner decided to carry the issue himself, and that is fine with me. But I would hesitate, in fact, I will not support the amendment. I am not against the idea of putting a tax on diapers if that is, in fact, what this body wants to do. I simply would ask that it not be attached to this particular bill. I just am afraid that as more and more amendments are adopted to this bill, the weight of these amendments will begin to draw the bill down to a point where senators will then be reluctant to support anything in LB 163. And so, for that reason and that reason alone, I would ask the body not to adopt this amendment. I would prefer if Senator Hefner would find another vehicle to adopt the amendment to and, at that point, we could discuss whether to attach it to another issue. But I'm afraid this amendment being adopted to this bill would potentially injure the ability of this bill to survive the scrutiny of this Legislature. So I am opposing the Hefner amendment.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Senator Moore, on the Hefner amendment.

SENATOR MOORE: Yes, Mr. President and members, as I always do, I admire Senator Hefner's tenacity on this issue. As you remember, I think Senator Hefner is one of those gentlemen when he's coming down from home on Highway 15, you see a dead cow on the other side, do you swerve and hit it again when it's down?