

That's kind of what you're doing with this. Last year Senator Hefner passed LB 325 that dealt a blow to the whole diaper industry by saying that you have to come up with a degradable product by 1993, and I think with this amendment he's trying to kick them one more time while they're down, which is fine and I know Senator Hefner is sincere in his beliefs, but I hope the body doesn't go along with him. The first reason, as Senator Rod Johnson stated, I think it's going to damage the bill. Secondly, you know, if forgetting policy, the fact of the matter is you're talking about a new tax you've had no hearing whatsoever on. I mean, those are all old arguments you can use on a lot of things. But, primarily, as I said, you know, last year we passed a bill, we served notice to the industry that they have to do something and I think they are trying to do some things and the Director of the Department of Environmental Control will have the ability to come in in October of '92 to determine whether or not they have done their job and have an alternative product. And I think, at that time, if indeed private industry cannot come up with something to suit Senator Hefner, maybe at that time Senator Hefner should introduce... if he is still around, and he probably will be, in the '93 session should introduce a bill, have a hearing and then talk about it. But, at this point in time, I think it's surely unwise. What you're doing, you're putting the tax on a segment of society that arguably certainly can least afford to pay it. Now, Senator Hefner mentioned tires. Well, I don't know of any alternative product on the horizon to drive my car on. That's why you have a dollar tax on tires, it's a problem now and it's going to be a problem in the future and we know that. Diapers, it's our hope, thanks in many ways to the efforts of Senator Hefner, that we're going to turn the corner and find a way to do way with his nemesis in the years to come. We're not there yet. There's not an alternative there, and by adding this tax on, you damage the bill, you institute a tax here on Select File that the public has had no input on whatsoever. I think you're just moving ahead a little too fast. As I said, you're kicking an industry, kicking them while they're down. I don't think that's a fair thing to do. I could go on a lot longer but I'm hoping we can dispose of this amendment before noon and I just simply ask the body to defeat it.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Senator Crosby, on the Hefner amendment.

SENATOR CROSEY: Thank you, Madam President, and members, I stand to oppose this amendment for several reasons. I echo what