

so that we may hear what the speakers are saying. (Gavel.)
Senator Hefner, please.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, and members of the body, I would like to ask the Clerk a question. I have page 346.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Clerk.

SENATOR HEFNER: Is that page 599?

CLERK: Senator, well, let me check. AM2141, Senator, is that your AM number? What do you have for your AM number?

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, that page is correct, 599 is correct, yes.

CLERK: I think maybe we have the amendment in twice.

SENATOR HEFNER: Yes.

CLERK: Okay.

SENATOR HEFNER: That is correct. I am sorry about that, but this amendment establishes a 10 cent per dozen tax on nondegradable disposable diapers. We did have a fairly good discussion a couple of weeks ago when the bill was up then. Millions of disposable diapers are used in Nebraska. They are a problem in our landfills, just as tires, papers, cardboard, cans, bottles, and I could go on and on. The Page just handed a sheet out that tells about the economics of disposable diapers and here are the hidden costs to the public; 18 billion, 18 billion disposable diapers are discarded each year, and these diapers represent 4 million tons of solid waste requiring disposal, and this costs the taxpayers they figure about \$300 million annually. So you can see that we have quite a problem, and so we need to raise money to take care of some of the problems that we have. By adding the 10 cent per dozen tax on disposable diapers, this would raise quite a little money. My staff estimated that it would raise from 670 thousand to 800 thousand dollars a year, and the Fiscal Office says that it would, according to their figures, it would probably raise a little more than that. And some say this is too costly. Senator Lindsay said, you know, with just a new baby, it is too costly to the young people, and others say that it is too costly to our elderly people. But I am saying with a \$1 tax on tires,