

would like to just, you know, drive the stake a little bit deeper, tax the consumers of diapers, I don't think that is the right thing to do. Now Senator Hefner has mentioned before that you tax tires, why not tax diapers? Well, the main difference is if you don't have existing statutes on the books, that in the next 30 months, you know, that something is going to happen. Different with tires, that is not going to happen. I sincerely hope and I sincerely think that something will, that technology will catch up in the diaper industry and will create a degradable diaper. That is going to happen. That is not going to happen with tires. That is the difference. As Senator Rod Johnson said, you know, Senator Hefner's amendment, even if you like it, I would encourage you not to hang it on LB 163. I think it just does further damage to the bill. I don't think you want to do that. I would urge the opposition of Senator Hefner's amendment, look at some other amendments coming later on on 163, and, eventually, move this bill over today because it is very important.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Schmit, please, followed by Senator Crosby and Senator Morrissey.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, and members, it is no secret to most of you that as far as I am concerned the disposal aspect of this issue ought to be that the bill would be disposed of, and I think that so often we introduce a bill, it is well-intended, we think we are going to get a piece of the problem under control, but in the course of that event, we really just nit pick at it and do not do very much, but we have got something that satisfies a certain element of the public and so we think we are doing all right. I am going to support Senator Elroy Hefner's amendment. Whether he is right or not, relative to his support of the bill, I am not sure, but I know that the disposable diaper issue is a major issue. It's of interest to me, of course, that we decide that we are going to tax businesses at a flat rate, and that includes farms. We are going to tax the tire, and we are going to maybe put a little tax on this or that, I don't know what else in here. But we are going to tiptoe around, of course, other items. We are not going to put a tax on refrigerators or washing machines, which are a nuisance. To me, I can tell you I have had enough of them dumped on my farm that I am really tired of that. We are not going to, of course, ever would we consider being realistic and tax the newsprint because we chickened out of that pretty quick on this floor because we don't want to have anyone back home