

CLERK: 25 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Debate has ceased. Senator Hefner, to close, please.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, and members of the body, we have had a good discussion on this. I am real happy for that, but if I don't get this amendment on, I don't feel I can support the bill because I think we are singling out certain businesses. I think we need to have a more broader coverage, and what is wrong with trying to help our corn farmers in Nebraska? I am real surprised at Senator Scott Moore and some of these young farmers around here. Here we have an opportunity to put a tax on diapers that is nondegradable and still they talk against it. It is hard for me to figure it out. I don't think this is an unfair amendment. All it does is takes one more commodity that we are placing in our landfills that is causing a problem, so what is wrong with asking that segment of business to help us with the cost? I just can't see what the problem is. I agree with Senator Schmit. I think we need to work at this on a whole wide state basis. I just don't think we can be singling out tires. We cannot be singling out just small businesses, small farmers, and like that. And, Senator Crosby, there are other alternatives, and I told you earlier what they were. I think the way to go is go the degradable route. And, Senator Morrissey, I certainly agree with the things that you have said, and, hopefully, you will be able to support this amendment because this would bring in a little more money. Somebody said, well, 10 cents a dozen, that is kind of complicated, we don't know how diapers are packaged. And, by the way, folks, I don't buy any so I really don't know, but just glancing at some of the boxes the other day, I believe they come in a dozen or 18 or 24, but, anyway, I don't think that would be too much of a problem. Okay, let me tell you what is wrong with the \$1 per tire. If we buy a \$20 tire, it is a dollar tax. If we buy a \$100 tire, it is a \$1 tax. If we buy a big combine tire or a big tractor tire, and some of them cost pretty close to a thousand bucks or maybe more, it is only \$1. So I think that is entirely unfair. If we are going to tax tires, we should do it I would say by the pound would be more fair. But also small businesses, like I said in northeast Nebraska, there is 15 communities now that is sending their solid waste to a recycler. What will we get out of our \$50 fee? I don't believe we would be getting too much. That is about all I have to say. I see Senator Chambers voted