

from a slightly different advantage than the retail merchants look at it. I would say to Senator Hefner that the tire industry is not opposed to the bill and they don't feel as if they are being discriminated against. Quite frankly, they'd like to contribute to some of the solutions. And I wish the business community felt the same way. If I could get the money out of the General Fund, I would have asked for that in the first place. But it was clear, based upon a lot of just looking at it from a logical standpoint, that the money probably wasn't going to come out of the General Fund. And you've seen today things for substantially less money, 50,000 and less, that have not gone today. So I wish I could take the 500,000 General Fund out of the bill. I can't do that, though. The Governor could have done that, but I can't. And so I'm stuck with the General Fund appropriation in the bill. I'm not opposed to it because it helped set up that state planning process that I think we need in this state to deal with the solid waste problem, but it also sets up a more substantial question on the local level of providing some very valuable, necessary resources to our local municipalities who have been talking to you about their problems in dealing with the solid waste problem and the financial problems that they're going to have to encounter, if LB 163 does not pass and new EPA regulations come down that will have an impact on whether they keep their landfill open, whether they update their landfill, whether they go toward more recycling programs, whether they go to some kind of concerted effort with other counties or other communities in a countywide or regionalwide landfill concept, these monies will be used to deal with what I consider to be one of the most pressing problems the State of Nebraska will have to deal with in the 1990's. And to avoid doing something this year to me just delays the inevitable, that we will have to deal with it. And by that time, unfortunately, a lot of these communities will not have the resources nor the opportunity to come for these funds. We debated for years whether to repeal the Whitney amendment, and every year I've sponsored legislation to do that I've been told by this body, Rod, we can't do that because it would create such a hardship on our little towns financially. Well, I've said, okay, fine, I understand that argument, now here is a chance to give them some financial help so that they can deal with bringing their landfills into regulation, and still I'm being told we're discriminating against people, we're not dealing with the problem, we're not following up on previous legislation. And logically I don't know which way to turn anymore. I guess after this year it's your problem, not mine. But I guess I'm