

make these communities understand, many of them do, some of them don't yet, you have a responsibility, you must initiate this, you must take the responsibility to look at your own situation, as is being done in many parts of the state now. Many people have put a lot of time and effort into this, and it's being done now. We want to make that statement to the communities, that is the intent of closing these bad landfills. Again, I maintain the flexibility Senator Lamb is worried about is there, with his input on the oversight committee I'm sure will continue to be there, as will my input be in the same direction. I don't think we need to shift the burden and make a statement that the state will come out and check you out. We want to make sure that the communities understand that we are serious about this, it needs to be addressed, but we will be flexible, but it's your responsibility to get going and get going now, because it's going to take you a long time to address this problem. You just can't snap your fingers and solve the problem overnight.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Morrissey. I'll now recognize Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I think that the Lamb amendment would be unfortunate. And the reason that I think it would be unfortunate is basically this, Senator Lamb's amendment addresses itself to one type of problem. It addresses itself to those landfills which are identified as a threat to water supplies. Well, there are other kinds of threats that landfills can represent that we may or may not know about right now. These landfills that we're talking about are totally unregulated. That means, for example, that there can be certain types of hazardous waste in those landfills, all kinds of things that we have not yet identified because they are, in fact, unregulated. Now, some of these things may be a threat to water, but there are other kinds of threat. There are direct threats to human beings going in and out of these landfills by hazardous materials. There may be airborne threats. There are different kinds of problems with landfills that can be serious in nature and have nothing to do with the water. So what we've said is that, look, we're going to have the Department of Environmental Control do this study, identify all the different types of threats that may be possible, look at the individual landfills eventually, and see what threats each and every one may or may not represent, and then deal with the situation. What Senator Lamb is saying is, let's not deal with any of the problems, except maybe those that