

But I'm saying, if you're going to do anything, let's do it, let's find a date certain, as I said in my opening on the committee amendments, and make a decision as to whether or not we're going to bring the Whitney amendment to an end. If we're not, then I say extend the Whitney amendment to all classes of cities, let everybody operate the way they want. If that's what you want to do, then let's do it. But I'm tired of messing around with the bill, because I think it's just a waste of time, because we haven't done anything yet, and all we've done is create another dual system, under the Lamb amendment which is trying to be refined by the Beutler amendment, which I'll have no party of.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Rod Johnson. We'll now go to Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, I'm interested in protecting the water and the environment. My legislative district has probably more water under it than any other legislative district in this state. I'm interested in that, both from the quantity and the quality standpoint. I object to what Senator Johnson has just said, that I don't want to do anything. See, if you don't do anything, the Whitney amendment applies to all, all second class cities and villages. I'm saying that should not be true with my amendment, that it will apply, it will apply. See, currently, you can't close any of those landfills. I'm saying they should be closed, if they are a threat to the water. I also rise to support Senator Beutler's amendment, because we are talking about people. I'm talking about water in my amendment, but basically when you get right down to it we are talking about people. So, if this landfill is, by some manner, a threat to people, let's close it, let's close it. I am not trying to gut the bill. It has been stated on this floor essentially that that's what I'm trying to do, but I'm not. All I am trying to do is introduce a little bit of selectivity in here. Don't just say that all those facilities, second class cities and villages should have the same closure responsibilities, the same regulations to close them, if they're not a threat, if they're not a threat to people, as Senator Beutler would have you amend the amendment. Certainly, that's perfectly okay with me. I am not trying to gut the bill. I am trying to make it a better bill. I am trying to make it a more selective bill, a bill that will not just across the board close all those, whether they're 500 feet from water and contained in a very acceptable manner, or whether they're 10 feet from water.