

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, or Mr. Speaker and members, I would like to provide a bit of legislative history about this issue before I get into the bill, because it is pertinent to discussion. In 1990, this body chose to pass LB 987, which set up the State Government Recycling Management Act. The purposes behind the act were to, first of all, select and hire a State Recycling Coordinator, who is Monte McKillip. And then there were basically four duties, under the act, that were to be carried out by the state recycler in the Energy Office. The first was the coordination and continuation of recycling activities, and also the purchase of recycled paper, and also to look into the recycling or the purchase of other recycled products for the state's use. The second was the assistance of local governments in cooperative purchasing by the state for recycled paper to be used by our many municipalities and county governments. The third was to expand the state's government initiatives to the area to assist private sector entities, such as recycling groups and organizations that might need technical assistance in the area of recycling. And, finally, the bill also authorized the continuation of the work of the advisory committee of the Recycling Management Act. As I said, this bill was passed in 1990. And it also set up in the bill a resource recovery fund. And that recovery fund was to receive the proceeds from the sale of materials discarded by the state, such as products such as aluminum, tires, waste oil, and also waste paper. It was decided, at the time, that we would not go into the areas of aluminum, tires and waste oil, because there were many other agencies, principally the Department of Roads, that were initiating recycling programs within their agencies and using these funds basically as incentives to continue their own recycling program. They did not want to break that initiative that those other agencies, particularly the Department of Roads, had been already working on. So we decided, or they decided that they would only use the proceeds or the dollars coming from the sale of waste paper. And this state, through the state agencies, generates about 4,000 pounds of waste paper per day in this state. However, because of the fluctuation of the sale of recycled paper, we're not expecting to collect anything more than \$13,200 this year. That far is under what we will need for the program, which is around \$39,000 in the '91-93 biennium budget. So that's what brings us up to LB 429. LB 429 authorizes that 15 percent of the proceeds of the sale of