

votes. And then, secondarily, I know Senator Morrissey had a meeting in Omaha that was very successful, and very informative, and I think he's made an excellent case for his proposal. If we're going to make a statewide commitment to this effort, I think that this source of revenue is an excellent one, and I...and I support his efforts. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Ashford. Next speaker is Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Ooh, I'm thinking about raising the old germaneness issue as you're trying to raise the tax, but I won't, I guess. Senator Morrissey brings to us a problem which, in future years, is going to cost this state a great deal of money. There is a problem we're going to have to own up to at some point in time. Now, Senator Morrissey is...he's...nobody in the body is more aware than Senator Morrissey that we are in the process of going through some great statewide plan. Now I don't expect that great statewide plan to have all the answers, but it will give us at least some idea of what sort of funding is to be anticipated, from the state and local level. And I know it's going to be a lot more than a million dollars a year, correct, Senator Morrissey. And hate to...well it's not...if it's so much more than a million, why bother with a million. That's not probably the best argument. But the fact is we don't really know where we're going on this. And if Senator Rod Johnson was here, I would ask him about a lot of these solid waste type things, rightly or wrongly, thanks to the efforts of Senator Morrissey last session, that sets some very needed things in motion to study some of these things. We've kind of put off that debate for a year in this body, and we've not postponed it indefinitely. I agree with Senator Morrissey, we cannot just continue shoving it under the rug. Our unlicensed landfill problem and our whole solid waste management problem is something that we simply have to come to grips with at some point in time. But that brings us to Senator Morrissey's amendment, which raises our tax a penny. Now philosophically, and this is not an absolute because we already do it, but philosophically I'm opposed to Senator Morrissey's amendment because you're actually using cigarette tax money for an ongoing program. And my concern about doing that with cigarette tax dollars is fortunately, at least from the health point of view, unfortunate, I guess, that you make money off tobacco companies. Cigarette tax revenues are a declining source. A one penny raise ten years ago, one penny raise is far less today. And