

CLERK: Nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Wesely, do you want to move to advance the bill?

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, yes. I would move for the advancement of the bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: You've heard the motion to advance LB 419. All those in favor say aye. Opposed no. It is advanced. We will now proceed to Item 8 on the agenda, LB 669, introduced by Senator Rod Johnson.

CLERK: Mr. President, 669 was a bill introduced by Senators Johnson, Elmer, Smith and Hartnett. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 23, referred to Natural Resources, advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments pending by the Natural Resources Committee.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members, the committee amendments thus become the bill so I guess, as I present them, I also will be presenting the bill to the body as its substance is contained mostly in the committee amendments. Back a couple of years ago Senator Hefner was successful in passing LB 325 which dealt with the issue of biodegradable diapers being sold in Nebraska. He, in that bill there, called for a study to be undertaken by the DEC to take a look at the feasibility and the probability of being able to sell biodegradable diapers in Nebraska and outlaw any diapers that were not biodegradable. What this bill does is add not only that biodegradable diapers could be sold but also compostable diapers. It is estimated that up to 60 percent of all of the waste that goes into our landfill could be composted. And, quite frankly, composting, I think, overall is better for the environment than even the question of biodegradable or photodegradable products. Obviously, there was a very strong effort made a couple of years ago by the Nebraska Corn Growers and others to get the diaper bill passed. It did pass. What we have done is struck a compromise with the Nebraska Corn Growers and I believe Senator Hefner in defining, and that's really what this bill does is define the meaning of compost and composting and compostable because all three of those have different meanings. And if you look up this issue, we have actually defined in our state