

theory was then we'll be putting these...these diapers into landfills and as the other material in landfills breaks down so will the...so will the diapers. And we do have landfills where things degrade although I think there's been a lot of information that's come out since then that things don't degrade in landfills as quickly as possible but at least the theory behind that original bill was now when we throw these into the landfills they will degrade and they will break down along with the other stuff in the landfills. Now what the supporters of 669 want us to do is say, okay, if we allow a diaper if it is biodegradable to be sold in Nebraska, let's allow one that is compostable, whatever that means. And I've had the handouts and I'm not really sure what that means. But where the logic breaks down is there is no place to compost these diapers. Where are they going to go? They're going to go back into the landfills and they no longer have to meet this standard of biodegradability. They have to meet what I assume is a lesser standard of compostability. If they were going to go into a compost heap someplace and if they were then going to break down and turn into humus-like material, that would be wonderful. But there's no provision in 669 to make sure that they do that. And so I think what Senator Ashford is doing is saying at a minimum, at a minimum let's make sure that there is a facility that will allow that to happen. I think his amendment makes tremendous amount of sense if the purpose of the bill is to allow a different method of having these diapers returned to their component parts and reintegrate with the atmosphere, you know, that's fine. If, on the other...I think they ought to be supportive of Senator Ashford's amendment. If, on the other hand, the purpose of it is to allow a sale of a product that no longer meets any sorts of standards of being able to decompose so it can be business as usual in the sale of these diapers, then they'll probably oppose it but at least we'll know what the real intent of 669 is. I commend Senator Ashford for once again showing us his keen intellect and ability to penetrate to the very basis of these issues and I'm very supportive of Senator Ashford's amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Smith, do you wish to address the amendment to the amendment?

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. May I ask a question of Senator Ashford, please.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Ashford, would you respond, please.