

these facilities around. Check my figures. See if the \$28 million figure is right. See if you go to a population below 300,000 if you must look at importation to make that facility viable and then let's wait and see the answers or the pluses and minuses to all those answers on the importation involved in supporting these facilities. I say let's go ahead and support Senator Pirsch's amendment and then let's look at the bracket and get rid of this bill until next year, the proper time when all the information can be available. Thank you.

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Thank you, Senator Morrissey. Senator Ashford on the Pirsch amendment.

**SENATOR ASHFORD:** Just very briefly, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate Senator Pirsch's amendment and I support it. I also appreciate the comments that Senator Johnson made in response, both to my amendment and to Senator Pirsch's amendment, realizing that there is an issue of compostability and I think we've made it an issue now before this body on this issue. Senator Pirsch's amendment really has taken care of, to a great degree, many of my concerns. I think, though, some of Senator Morrissey's concerns, obviously, are still out there. Kind of weighing this back and forth, it's kind of a difficult decision for me, but I think I will probably not support the bracket motion. Let's go ahead and advance the bill with the Pirsch amendment on there and...but I think we've sent a signal to the industry and to the state as a whole that before we pass this kind of legislation in the future and, as we look at this particular piece of legislation in the future, there are going to have to be some answers given to us about definitions, for example, about what "compostability" means. And I...granted, as Senator Rod Johnson concluded, that any company can come in here and make whatever representations that they want to make, but I think before we as a state start somewhat underwriting those kinds of representations that we be darn careful about what we're doing. When we say compostability is a standard that we will accept, then let's make sure that we understand what that means and make sure that we have the facilities in our state to deal with the problem. I guess, lastly, this bill, as I understand it, does not take effect until 1993 anyway, I believe, so we do have some time next year to bring this back. I think we've sent a good strong signal on the issue. Again, I think probably the best approach now is to adopt the Pirsch amendment, go ahead and advance the bill at this time and look at it over the interim and next year. Thank you.