

amendments.

**SPEAKER BAACK PRESIDING**

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Senator Morrissey.

**SENATOR MORRISSEY:** Thank you, Senator Johnson. I guess I will just...we have got quite a few other amendments to the committee amendments, some that are technical, some that are Senator...a couple Senator Johnson has introduced that we would like to get to fairly quickly. But I will just state the process and then later, again, go through the...I have a summary of the bill and the committee amendments and some of the next amendments coming up that I would like to explain. But, if you remember, 1990 we passed LB 163 which was introduced by Senator Johnson. We had an amendment on LB 163 that called for statewide planning for solid waste, integrated solid waste management services. Over the last...over a year, I guess it's been, we went across the state, had a series of 18 meetings with the public, met probably every waste hauler and city official that's handling waste in the state. Many citizens had input. The Governor appointed a Citizens Advisory Committee for solid waste. They monitored the process of the state plan and acted as quality control. That Citizens Advisory Committee was made up from citizens all across the state geographically and all across the state as far as solid waste interests go, municipalities, counties, waste haulers, waste managers, waste facility owners, special waste producers, such as tires and medical waste. Hospitals were involved. And we went through the entire townhall meeting process over the last year, year and a half, and result...that resulted in some recommendations made by the Citizens Advisory Committee and LB 1257 is the result...original LB 1257, with a few amendments, was the result of the Citizens Advisory Committee's recommendations. The committee amendments are the result of other compromises we have made since on many different issues that we'll explain later. The whole process has been ongoing as started by Senator Johnson many years ago and continues now and the intent is to give the localities the framework within which they can structure their solid waste systems. We don't tell them how to do it. We don't tell them where to do it, but we give them the ability to structure these systems, join in with each other, raise the money needed to finance these systems, raise the money needed to staff the Department of Environmental Control so we can be an agreement state on solid waste management so we manage our own waste