

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. Senator Horgan, would you respond to a question, please?

SENATOR HORGAN: Yes, I will.

SENATOR HALL: Tom, on page 11 of the amendment, the...as it reads there, it says, and this is what falls over from page 10, line 21, fees collected pursuant to this subdivision shall be credited to a single fund to be used exclusively by the city for the removal of disposal or recycling of garbage and refuse, or all the same, including any costs incurred for collecting the fee, and for promoting recycling. My interest is in what is...what falls into the category of including any costs incurred for collecting, and who determines what money is going to be used for purposes of promoting recycling? Because this is more than just a, more than just a garbage collection fee. We are going to pay somebody to collect it, and I would guess that that would be MUD, because I think the original bill would allow for the fee to be placed on the MUD billing, and then the language that deals with for promoting recycling. Who determines what budget, are there any limitations in the bill in terms of the amount of money that could be spent for the promotion of recycling, and is that not different than a fee for simply collecting garbage and refuse?

SENATOR HORGAN: Senator Hall, that part of the bill was an amendment offered pretty much at the suggest of Senator Ashford, that he did not want to see a garbage collection fee implemented that simply would funnel then into the General Fund, and that if we were going to charge a fee in the City of Omaha, that any fee generated would have to go towards paying for the disposal and the recycling of the refuse, and any of the billing costs and promoting of recycling; that it simply would not be a windfall, an additional windfall to the City of Omaha, but that it would have to go into, you know, that par...that it would be a segregated fund.

SENATOR HALL: I understand it would be a segregated fund. My question is in relation to there is a difference between collection and the promotion of recycling, and although you can argue, and I guess that they go hand in hand, the fee being spent for the promotion of recycling is different than the cost in terms of just the flat pickup and disposal of garbage. What