

back, Sarpy County was pretty controversial, too, when they were putting in a landfill. Douglas County had a lot of moaning and groaning about where we should put that landfill. Across the river in Council Bluffs, they have had a great deal of debate over where they should have one, and as of this time, they have not come to a conclusion. Now this issue impacts senators differently. Some senators I have talked to, they have no garbage pickup. They simply are at their house and on their farm, and they simply burn the refuse material, burying the items that can't be destroyed by incineration, or taking them to a landfill to be taken care of. But in my district and in Senator Hall's district and in Senator Chambers' district, individuals don't have that option of burning refuse. They have to have them hauled away. Now all of those materials are going into a landfill, so how to best deal with that landfill and the controversy that comes about when our landfills begin to fill up. I think the only realistic solution is some sort of recycling program, and the city has made an attempt to do that. But it hasn't... I think it has been met with mixed reviews. I think it started out with a lot of fanfare, and for the most part, I think people really do believe in recycling. I think there is a strong public support of the recycling effort. They see a lot of benefits. They see a lot of school children telling their parents, you have got to start recycling, mom and dad. You have got to spend the time to sort out those items that can be recycled, and I think that is important. But when they came to the Legislature to deal with this issue, they said, well, you give us the authorization and we will come up with a recycling program. I just don't see that that is the right approach. I think that if the public is willing to support these types of programs, which I feel they are, then I think that the public should be given that right to vote on this issue. I think the support is there.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR ABOUD: And I think possibly the support is on the city council for the authorization of having a garbage fee. So I don't see what the problem is in allowing the public to vote on this important question of whether a garbage fee should be authorized. I support Senator Chambers' attempts to allow the public to vote on this issue, and I feel that that is the approach that we should take with it, and for that reason, I probably am going to have a tough time supporting Senator Horgan's amendment. Thank you.