

confining the garbage fee to garbage collection, if we were debating this bill ten or 15 years ago before the era of recycling, maybe so, but now we have new developments in this area that I think we have to consider and the city needs to consider if they are going to implement a recycling program. So I'm going to oppose the Chambers amendment because I don't know how we can implement a recycling program without marketing and promotion, not only marketing and promoting the program to the individual residents of the city but also marketing recyclable materials, hopefully, so that the program in the future can begin to break even and, hopefully, at some point get into a revenue positive mode. So I think we need to give the city discretion...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR ASHFORD: ...here. Obviously, with a vote of the people requirement it's going...the burden is going to be on the city and the experts in the recycling program to sell the voters on recycling. I would guess that if it's not a program that makes sense, that the voters would vote it down anyway but I think we at least need to give the city the discretion to move on it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members, I rise to support Senator Chambers' amendment, but to speak very briefly about the Horgan amendment that we just adopted. The issue, as Senator Horgan in his own words said, is that it's just a budget issue. The city has a tight budget at present. They don't want to do the difficult thing of raising property taxes so they want to look to the Legislature to grant them the ability to levy a garbage fee so that they can argue that they did not raise property taxes, that this is a separate issue, it's a separate fund that we're going to be able to show you that we're going to do a better job. That could be done now under the property tax system as it's in place. It hasn't been done to date. It is the whole issue of not only the garbage collection but especially the recycling efforts have been a fiasco. They have not worked. There has been no plan put in place. There has been no effort on the part of the city to look down the road. The city doesn't have its own dump site. They don't even have their own landfill. They have to contract with others to provide that service to them. They have to pay either Douglas