

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

February 4, 1999 LB 59

would also sunset the Waste Reduction Fund the same date, October 30th, 2002. Senator Schimek's statement, the element of fear, well, we're putting the element of fear in the Waste Reduction Fund also so that these sunset the same time. And we have talked about setting up an interim study committee. This simply holds our feet to the fire to do just that and I think that we can combine these forms into one and, thereby, eliminate a tremendous amount of paperwork, reduce administrative cost and so on, and I just want to make sure that it gets done, I guess. So I would urge adoption of my amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Baker. Chair recognizes Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. We did discuss this in our discussions off the floor. I don't have a huge problem with it. I'm not going to support it, but I do think that there is a commitment to go ahead and study this whole area this summer and I, personally, will keep that commitment. So I'm not going to ask you not to vote for the amendment, but I'm not going to and I don't think it's necessary. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler, for discussion on the Baker amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Maurstad, members of the Legislature, I think we should take a more cautious approach to this. There are two different funds. The two different funds have a multiplicity of purposes. They go into cleaning up tires. They go into recycling projects. They go into helping small towns and cities with regard to waste reduction projects of one type or another. It would seem to me that if you were going to get into the mode of striking all of these funds and sunsetting them, you ought to have some evidence that the funds are not working and are not needed. I would submit to you that the funds are needed; that litter hasn't declined in this state; that we still have huge waste collection and waste reduction problems; that those monies are being applied to those problems and they're being implied (sic), I think, in an intelligent manner. The funds were created at different points in time. Certainly the idea of merging the funds is not necessarily a bad