

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

March 3, 2003 LB 143

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Schrock. I certainly endorse the idea. And the talk about the advantages of crumb rubber in the asphalt fortunately has been proven, and the state of Nebraska has seen the results. And as many of you that read reports about the roads in Nebraska are starting to see, where Nebraska is now trying to include crumb rubber in their application of asphalt to our highways, this is one step forward that's been a long time coming. But as indicated when Senator Schrock talked about this bill, the whole process has been a long time coming, because of the...some doubting, some people who didn't especially agree with the process in the beginning. But we're now starting to see a different attitude and, fortunately, I think it's going to make a big improvement in the way our asphalt roads are dealt with in Nebraska. So I support this idea. And I also am pleased that they're...have decided to oppose the baling of tires as a way of disposing them. Because it doesn't dispose of them; it just sets them aside for a longer length of time. And there will come a time when there will probably be more problem with those...that method of disposal than it is to build them into...or to cut them up and use them for crumb rubber, which is advantageous to everybody. So I support this piece of legislation and hope it moves forward. With that, thank you.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator McDonald.

SENATOR McDONALD: Lieutenant Governor and members of the body, I realize that we do have a problem here. This last summer, I have an economic development company...actually, they're not a company, they're a business in Elgin, Nebraska...that would like to develop a crumb rubber plant there, and they were not getting a lot of positive responses from the different corporations and companies that they went to deal with. I guess I'm maybe not saying corporations. But we had a meeting with the DEQ and the DED and the recycling people and the Department of Roads and, in fact, I invited all you senators to come, because they would like to do a crumb rubber plant. We're not getting a lot of direction from any of those individual groups, and so we thought if we put them all around the table that we would get some