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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 143

they would be permitted, under this bill, in landfills, yes.

SENATOR JANSSEN: All right. Is that because they can't contain a basin, you might say, where water can accumulate or other things can accumulate, in those solid rubber tires? Is that one of the reasons why, or is it just the rubber itself?

SENATOR PREISTER: It is the rubber itself, because it has a different composition. It's on a different type of rim. Getting it off the rim is not easy, and can't be done in the other processes. So part of it is the makeup of the tire, the composition of the tire, and the rim that it's on and the way that they're fused together. They are solid, so you don't have the mosquito breeding problem. You don't have water accumulating in them. But that's not the reason that they are changed. It's just because the tire processors can't deal with them. Nobody can handle them, and therefore they're a problem, and we don't have a good outlet. And there aren't that large a number of them that they would be a problem in the landfills.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Preister. And at one point in time, there was a large tire recycling...I don't know whether they recycled them there or not, but at West Point, Nebraska, there was a whole 80 acres of tires, and you could see that from the highway. Have they cleaned that up?

SENATOR PREISTER: Senator, there were, rough count, a million tires in that pile and it took several years to remove all of those tires. To my knowledge, the last of them are gone. There could possibly be a few there, but very few. To my knowledge, that was one of the largest ones in the state, and they are cleaned up. And they are cleaned up as a result of these grant funds being used to go in,...

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: One minute.

SENATOR PREISTER: ...to pay haulers, to pay to take them to be reprocessed. And that's why T.O. Haas set up this fund with the Legislature.

SENATOR JANSSEN: All right. Thank you, Senator Preister. And