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FLOOR DEBATE

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access these tires as a source of energy for their business, then it is for the public good in the long run. So I support Senator Schrock's amendment. I do not support the FA443. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. Senator Smith, followed by Senator Schrock and others.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President and members. As a member of the Natural Resources Committee, I have found it very interesting to hear the testimony, sift through the various issues that we address in the Natural Resources Committee. And this tire issue has certainly been intriguing as well, in learning about state policy relating to tires, scrap tires, that is, and how we treat those, the programs that exist to dispose of those tires in a decent fashion. And it's been very interesting to see the various innovations along the way. And certainly, AM2299 speaks to that innovation. As I was listening to the testimony on the bill, the original bill that is now AM2299, it was interesting to hear both sides. And in fact, some of the testimony said how bad the mercury is. But then when I looked at the report, as Senator Kremer mentioned earlier, as I looked at the report, the mercury emissions from tire-derived fuel are less than the coal-only emission. Not only was mercury less; so was nickel, so was manganese, so was arsenic, and several others. We need to tell both sides of the story, certainly, but I think we need to emphasize the fact that it is our state policy that the state engages in tire disposal. And so AM2299 is a very logical conclusion, or extension of our state policy relating to the disposal of tires. That's why I think that FA443 should not be adopted, and we should move forward with AM2299, so that we can continue to dispose of tires in a decent fashion, I think an optimal fashion, and derive energy from that waste. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Further discussion on FA443 to AM2299. Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Senator Preister, I will work with you any way possible to resolve this issue. You were...it was not intended to blindside