

SENATOR SCHIMEK: So...

SENATOR BEUTLER: If we end up leaving a portion, I mean, what we will do, in effect, is figure out what we have to adjust further in order to entirely eliminate the tax that Senator Horgan wants to eliminate. But at that point in time having made the adjustment and having seen the effect of the adjustment for one year, we will know precisely how much money is being generated. And at that point in time, I think it will be easy to make a further adjustment in terms of equating revenues in order to eliminate the tax entirely that Senator Horgan wants to eliminate, in the event that the funds are not sufficient to eliminate it with the mechanism of the current bill.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: But for one year, is it conceivable that a business may be paying double, I mean, paying both?

SENATOR BEUTLER: To the extent that there may be a business that is paying both taxes in the short term for one year, they would be paying slightly...they would be paying the same...well, it is conceivable, yes. On the one hand you have the 50-25 dollar tax, now depending on which bracket they are in. When this bill goes into effect, they may be paying 25 instead of 50, or they may be paying the same 25 they've always been paying. So that would be the effect on one side. On the other side, assuming that they are subject to the litter fee, they will be paying slightly more, although the amount per million of sales is such that no one business would pay very much more.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: And in order to keep that from happening an additional year, we would have to come back and adjust the legislation.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: We would have to pass more legislation?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes. The position I took on this, and some of the committee members, was simply that if we were going to eliminate a tax in the face, and combine taxes in the face of unknown quantities, that we ought to...but that in light of the environmental requirements that I think are going to be there for money two or three years out, that the burden or the risk of that ought not to be carried by the fund. And if the monies didn't work out correctly, we would come back in a year later