

there will be additional stiffer requirements under 1257 that we passed last year, part of all this. Much of the activity that's going to be dealt with in the waste reduction fund will be in response to 1257 and the federal requirements with regard to landfills and that kind of thing.

SENATOR VRTISKA: What part of this money would be used for closure on existing landfills that are all over the state?

SENATOR BEUTLER: This particular fund that we are talking about could be used for a variety of items related to that. Also the Environmental Trust Fund will have monies that could be used for that purpose once the lottery is up and going, but I think, basically, basically, those two funds are the only ones that I'm...that I can think of offhand that will help relieve property taxes on that particular item.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, because I understand, and have been involved with this for some length of time, I understand that this is going to be, obviously, a very expensive item in some of these, particularly, small communities...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes.

SENATOR VRTISKA: ...and they don't even have the tax base in many instances to even come close to...I mean, it is going to be the highest item on their budget, and I guess my concern is how many dollars, I am worried about how much money has been dedicated to this particular project that communities will be given an effort to apply for some assistance in accomplishing this, because it's got to happen. And I have had a number of small communities call me and ask me where they could get some help because this, when you go out and start to cover one of these landfills that has been in operation for a good many years and determine it has to have a couple of feet of clay put over them, I just wondered how much of this money is going to be dedicated to that purpose?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, I think that eventually, Senator, probably a good portion of it will be, but one of the reasons, frankly, that I want to be sure these funds are not decreased is so that in the event, as the crush comes on here with landfills, that we need to help some of the towns and areas more with a state level tax rather than property tax, that we have some funds that we can go to and say, well, maybe we need to dedicate