

lowering that qualifying level to \$100,000. So there will be more people subject to the tax. The tax rate will go up slightly, there will be slightly more people subject to the tax. We're thinking that will raise \$600,000 which will equate to the \$600,000...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...that we are reducing Horgan's retailers' fee by, but we don't know exactly.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senators. Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Madam President and members of the body, I am a cosponsor of the bill with Senator Horgan. I want to thank Senator Beutler and his committee because they have done a lot of work on this bill and the tire recycling bill. And like Senator Horgan, I had many retailers complain about the 25 and 50 dollar retail tax, and it is like Senator Beutler says, that we can't drop the tax until we know that there is other money to take its place. So I think this is a good solution, and I guess a temporary solution to the problem, so I would urge everyone to support the committee amendments and the bill, and, thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Madam Speaker, members, I remember when the litter tax first came into effect in Nebraska. I called down to the Department of Revenue to find out exactly how we paid on it, and I asked who was exempt. Well, she...the lady that I talked to explained to me that fast foods were exempt, and that upset me a lot because, you know, you look down the highways and so on, and what do you see the most of? You see a lot of fast food cartons and so on laying around, and I believe that with the lowering of the amount of sales to \$100,000, you are going to pick up a lot of these fast food monies and revenue from those people because of the effect of their sales of off-sale or so on, carry-out will fall under this category now, and I don't believe there is going to be that much of a problem with reducing the \$50 to \$25. Actually, I believe we are going to see that it will probably be enough that we can take it out in a shorter time period there. And I, as a retailer, I would...I see nothing wrong with a litter tax fee. I would much rather pay that than have a can deposit imposed on retail outlets in the State of Nebraska for the fact that the sanitation part of