

April 27, 1979

LB 380

happens is employees take no more additional time really. They take all grades of paper, not just certain grades, put them into a special container right next to the garbage. The garbage goes in one and the paper goes in another. About 80% of what we pay to be hauled away now and burned up is recyclable and we are just throwing those dollars away. They take that paper product. It is picked up by inmates. It is taken to the facility at the penal complex and at that point it is sorted by those who are trained by those who pick up the bid on this item. It is sorted, it is shredded and it is baled and we can get, instead of \$20 a bale, we can get upwards of \$85, up to \$85 a bale at current prices.

SENATOR DUIS: How much money are we going to lose doing it?

SENATOR REUTZEL: We are not going to lose any money doing it, Senator.

SENATOR DUIS: You mean the \$129,000 will all come back.

SENATOR REUTZEL: In over a period of a few years, that is going to be all brought back and then we are going to be making money. The revenue, once the program is established, the revenue is going to exceed the cost. As I said, Senator, I am perfectly willing to put a sunset clause in there.

SENATOR DUIS: Well, if we put a sunset clause in there, you haven't got any chance to make any money back. You just got through saying that the further it goes the more money you make.

SENATOR REUTZEL: But I am saying, Senator, a sunset clause of three years or five years, whatever you want to put in there, you can have an idea of how much revenue that you can expect every year and you can obviously extrapolate that and see if you are going to make your money back. Obviously, if you are not making, if your revenue doesn't exceed your expenses every year, there is not a great deal of purpose in it. Our figures indicate that you are going to have excess revenue on this.

SENATOR DUIS: Where did the bill originate?

SENATOR REUTZEL: This originated in my office and we've worked on this for about a year and we decided to bring it up today simply because if we didn't get to it today we might not get to it this year.