

It's probably doing a fine job in these 18 communities, but I'm very concerned about what I see in the rural areas and this program isn't accomplishing that goal and I don't see much opportunity for them to do so. So I think I'm going to reluctantly support Senator Rupp's amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Withem, speaking on the Rupp amendment.

SENATOR WITHEM: Mr. President, the whole line here decided we need to get into the act here a little bit I guess, although we didn't plan it. I am going to differ with Senator Scofield and I am going to reluctantly ask you to oppose the Rupp amendment. And I basically just rise to indicate I'm going to vote against the Rupp amendment. I'm going to try to help advance LB 127 today, however, I do have questions and they are questions similar to the ones that Senator Scofield asked and that is, are we using this money in the best possible fashion? I refer you to a handout here from Senator DeCamp. Page 5, indicate the grants are now divided into three areas, education, clean up and recycling. And I note that the clean up portion only receives ten percent of the funding. Public education information participation receives 45 percent of the funding. I guess what I am just doing is indicating to Senator DeCamp and to the lobbyists for the various supporters of this bill that between now and Select File I plan on looking into this a little more and maybe offering some amendments to see if this money cannot be used a little more directly toward getting at the real problem and that is the trash that sits by the side of the roads and maybe fund a little more heavily on these actual clean up categories. The general concept of the tax is I think probably right and just. I wouldn't oppose necessarily leaving this program in place, but I think maybe we ought to look at how this money is being used a little more diligently than we appear to at the moment. So what I am going to do is vote against the Rupp amendment, vote in favor of advancing the bill, but plan on getting into the fray here a little bit more on how this money is actually distributed. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Rod Johnson, do you wish to speak on the Rupp amendment further? Yes. Very well. Senator Wesely has asked the question. There are other lights on. Yes, the question has been called. The Chair would not take the time to put the question, if there are no other persons to speak on the Rupp amendment and that Senator Rupp may close. Is