

tical need in the state. It is a problem that I know we've spent a lot of time talking about for Omaha. There is going to be another bill dealing with waste disposal. I think that this amendment would help us address those questions. So, on this one, I find myself back with my old friend, Senator Schmit.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature. Here we go again. We hear people say "we have too much government over us", "we have too much government telling us what to do". For example, OSHA and others. Here we are giving away what we want to do to the Director of Environmental Control. We give him all of the responsibility, and he can spend all of this money, if he wants to, on what he wants to spend it on. Over on page 4 of the original bill it says "the Director may designate trained employees of the Department, or be vested with powers to enforce and administer the provisions of this act and all rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this act". So anything that the Director wants to do, after we pass this thing he's free to do and we're stuck with it. I just think this bill gives away too much of the Legislature's power. I'm not for the amendment. I don't think I'm for the bill anymore.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit, would you close debate.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, I'll close debate, Mr. President. First of all, Senator Nichol, you will find that identical language in many, many agencies. That is how the system of government works. If you want to pinpoint every aspirin bottle, every tin can, every other debris that comes along, and if you want to supervise that, you think that is proper legislative activity, go at it. Have at it. It's your opportunity to do so. I think that we have to, and we've done it many times, depend upon administrators to do that job which we outlined for them. The proposal that I have here before you, as Senator Fowler has indicated, aims towards the conservation of natural resources. I come back again to the fact that much of this material can be reclaimed and can be recycled. If you read the newspapers, and if it was in the newspapers it must be right because they always tell the truth, we are rapidly exhausting our natural resources--iron, tin, manganese. They didn't mention wood pulp for some reason because, of course, newspapers consume wood pulp at an alarming rate. If you wanted to really go into environmental improvement you probably could say 'well why should we have a newspaper, we can go to the radio and the television and we don't have any environmental problems with that'. I would just like to say this, two years ago I had a bill that had to do with control of litter and it also involved the unemployed people. It said anyone who was unemployed shall pick up litter. No one liked that either. I've introduced several other bills along this same line, but this amendment is aimed toward conservation of natural resources. The time is going to come when we're going to be out of those things. We've got millions of acres of sand in the United States. We can produce more glass, I suppose. But the one thing we're short of, the many things that we are short of in this area are some of these very essential minerals which we are importing, we are importing them from foreign countries. Therefore, this is an important amendment. As Senator Fowler says, I think it improves the bill and I thank him for his cooperation in adding the amendment to the bill.