

want any kind of duplication of that nature but the federal government is simply directing power districts to do their own checking and the people in the area of nuclear power plants are coming back and asking us questions, are you checking it? Are you sure it is checked? We as the State of Nebraska cannot honestly tell them that that is done. It may be done correctly. I hate to bring up all these kind of statistics because I said before this amendment is no accusation towards either O.P.P.D. or N.P.P.D. in their operation. They may be doing that correctly. I have been in those plants. I have seen that they do check out milk and fish samples but we as a state have the obligation to see to it that the health of our citizens is protected and that simply has to be a state function. There are complaints in my area that there's an increasing number of cancer cases and of course because of that, people get somewhat nervous and come back and ask me all those questions. We have to be able to give a straight answer that we as a state are checking out radiation and that we as a state are satisfied that the operation is properly done without any emission of radiation. Again to go back to Senator Kelly's concern, who should pay for it, I fully agree with Senator Kelly, but number one, the Health Department goes around this state checking out swimming pools for the health protection of our citizens and then of course they do send the bill to the individual towns and they have to pay for that inspection, so I don't see why in this case the Health Department couldn't send a bill to the two power districts for the same kind of service for the protection of the health of our citizens. I don't see any difference between those two systems at all. Now if for some reason that would not be possible to bill the power districts for that service and inspection, then most certainly I would support Senator Kelly to bring in a bill next session to correct that so that we would bill the customers which do include some people on the Iowa side but in the meantime we cannot simply wait here for another year and leave these questions wide open and people will come back to you and ask you, are you protecting us? Do you have a regular system of inspection and you can only say no, we don't have it. We assume it is done correctly. You put the fox in the chicken coop and the fox comes out and says everything is fine. It's a lot better if you go back and see whether you have any chickens left in there. And again, I'm not accusing any power district of doing something wrongly. You have to be assured yourself that we fulfill our obligations of protecting citizens health and if we go around and check every swimming pool and bill those cities then I think it is certainly far more important to us that we also do check milk samples and food samples and feed samples for radiation because it is far more dangerous if anything would happen there than some infection somebody could get in a swimming pool. I think the discussion here about rules and regulations and who pays what has gotten a little bit out of proportion. We have to assure the health of our citizens first.

PRESIDENT: You have one minute.

SENATOR GEORGE: If it cannot be billed properly then let's correct it next session. I'm certainly willing to support that kind of legislation. I move for the adoption of my amendment.