

SENATOR WESELY: Okay. It just says though that one of the things that was deleted was the requirement that the regulations that are set would be no less stringent than federal guidelines which we have to meet, and that was taken out. Was there any reason for that particularly?

SENATOR GEORGE: Oh, yes...I'm sorry...I...yes, that was on the next page. I should have mentioned that. That was a request that I, myself, as the introducer of the bill had for the Committee. One of the reasons and philosophies behind passing this kind of legislation, of course, is that we, as a State of Nebraska, keep in control and because the option obviously is that the federal EPA through their regional office in Kansas City will take over. Since we do want to keep our own control, I don't see any reason why our own council should be mandated to have rules and regulations that would...cannot possibly be less stringent than federal rules. If we somehow subscribe to that philosophy, we might as well have the federal boys take it over and do it right away. So I asked to have it taken out, and there was no disagreement.

SENATOR WESELY: Okay, thank you very much.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, the motion is the adoption of the Committee amendments to 342. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. We're voting on the Committee amendments to the bill. Have you all voted? We're voting on the Committee amendments to LB 342. Record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried, and the amendments are adopted. Now are you ready to advance the bill, Senator George?

SENATOR GEORGE: Yes, Mr. President, I move to advance LB 342 to E & R Initial.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, and then we'll take LB 11, and then we'll be through this morning.

SENATOR GEORGE: Alright, a brief explanation of the bill. These are amendments to the Nebraska Environmental Protection Act. The amendments are basically necessary because the State of Nebraska, as any other state, has to come forward with a state implementation plan by summer of 1979, this year. The option, of course, is if you don't do that then we might be under control of a federal EPA,