

doing on energy in the Legislature and I said I was very proud of this Legislature, that it appeared that they had seen the light on the concerns that have been expressed across the state on energy, that it looked like we might pass a bill that we could really see some action taken on that problem. That article has not been written yet. I am going to have to talk to the reporter because it is quite clear, it looks to me with this amendment that we are not going to do anything on energy this year and, in fact, the praise that I gave to the Legislature has to be withdrawn. Well I hope it won't have to be. I hope you will change your mind on this amendment and that probably won't happen but nevertheless, you have to keep in mind a few things. Number one, the energy problem is not going to go away. It is not going to just vanish. It is going to be there. We have to do something about it. We have to show some leadership. I think that clearly the bill, if we could have amended it with the Koch amendment, would have been able to do a great deal of good. It would have taken care of some of the concerns that many of you have and could have accomplished something but with the Remmers amendment we have nothing and as far as I am concerned, we might as well, as Senator DeCamp says, just forget it and do away with the bill. I think that many of you are sure of the concern that is out there about energy but you are not perhaps sure of what we should do or what is in this bill and I understand the confusion leads to perhaps hasty action and I think that the Remmers amendment is hasty action. In Lincoln, Nebraska, we have had a number of items that have indicated a great concern that is out there. I think that concern is not just in Lincoln. It is across the state. They did a poll asking people, "What is the most important thing in the State of Nebraska? What is the most important problem that you have that you want to see something done about?" Well, the answer was the energy problem, the utility bills that they have to pay. The most important problem to Lincolnites was the energy problem. Now if you go back to your districts and you ask the same question, you all have different districts. You will perhaps have different concerns but at the top or close to the top will be the energy problem and so when the next question is asked, after you find out that is a concern amongst your constituents, what are you going to say you did about it? And I think that you could say with the passage of LB 257 with the Koch amendment, you have done some good things for the State of Nebraska but with the Remmers amendment you have nothing. It is not an energy bill any more. It is a state aid bill that Senator DeCamp talked about and again, the Legislature will have missed an opportunity to do something about an important problem. Now with the concerns that you have I think that there are better ways to deal