

issue of asbestos. Specifically, 706 would allow for the abatement of hazardous waste, more importantly asbestos, but it is open-ended in that should down the road there be the need to do something in the area for a school district or school that had an underground storage tank, for example, there would be the provision or the flexibility within this bill to allow for that. But the primary purpose here is to allow for schools, both public and private, to be able to borrow money for the purposes of the removal of asbestos. It deals with...the bill deals with the issue of environmental hazards but, as many of you know, the concern in the issue surrounding asbestos is one that is at the critical point for the schools in this state and I think to allow them another source of low interest money is appropriate. I think the NIFA funds would serve that purpose well. And, with that, Mr. President, I would urge the advancement of LB 706 to E & R Initial.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Any discussion on the advancement of the bill? If not, those in favor...excuse me, Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Just a quick question of Senator Hall. This would operate then with...as other financing provisions of NIFA where they would apply for a loan and they would get the loan and they would pay it back?

SENATOR HALL: Exactly. It does not...does not change any of the procedures that would be used, it only expands the use of the funds. So it would allow for the use of the funds in the case of a school for the removal or the abatement of an environmental hazard.

SENATOR PIRSCH: But otherwise the same provisions of pay back and interest and so forth.

SENATOR HALL: That's right, there is no change in those provisions.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you.

SENATOR HALL: Uh-huh.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Any other discussion? Seeing none, those in favor of the advancement of the bill please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record.