

April 17, 1989

LB 761

SENATOR SCHMIT: I have no closing, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Those in favor of the adoption of the committee amendments to LB 761 please vote aye, opposed nay. Please record.

CLEPK: 28 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Schmit, would you care to open on the bill itself? Senator Schmit, would you like to open on the bill?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, Mr. President. Mr. President and members, this bill, LB 761, is a bill which is the result of much debate and discussion by Natural Resource Committee members. The bill also is a result of a series of hearings which were held by the committee last year when we traveled across the State of Nebraska and we traveled to those areas, in most instances, in some instances, at least, which had been mentioned as possible sites for a low-level radioactive waste site. We attempted to resolve some of the problems that were discussed at those hearings, and if you will bear with me, I will touch upon some of the parts of the bill. We still have some amendments to the bill as a whole which I want to address in a very short order, but I want to address the bill first. First of all, the...under section...first portion of the bill, of course, cites the action, requires the Compact Commission sets up a toll-free number, we amend that out of there. Section 6, provides access to monitoring data to a local monitoring committee and authorizes the committee to hire a local inspector who shall have access to the facility for monitoring purposes. Section 7, requires the disposal cells to be built above grade levels. As we all know the earlier sites were built below ground, were the cause of some concern and justifiably so. This section requires that they be built above grade. Section 8 provides for special assessments against the generators for cost incurred by the state. Section 9 requires the license to provide that a facility shall not accept waste for a period longer than 30 years or until 5 million cubic feet of waste has been received. Section 10 requires the assessment of a surcharge against the facility, the users of a facility, sufficient to raise \$2 million, provides for distribution of \$300,000 per year to be allocated among the communities under active consideration with 50 percent distributed pro rata among incorporated