

the one that I would vote against because of that very beginning language that requires them to be residents. We have already picked the monitoring committees, and they are operating fine. Let's let them operate the way they are. One member is not going to cause that much problem and, quite frankly, I think you are going to see the monitoring committees work better if we keep this member on there. The other parts of the amendments, I don't necessarily have a problem with, but I am going to vote against it because of the first two lines. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Morrissey, please, followed by Senator Dierks.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Mr. Speaker and members, thank you. I rise in opposition of this amendment for, basically, the same reasons as Senator Kristensen. When I first read that Hugh Kaufman was nominated by the people of Nora, I said, well, those folks made a good move there. I thought it was a very good move. They have, as Senator Kristensen said, they have no expertise in this area and they found somebody that does have the expertise who is willing to help them with their problem. One of the smartest moves they could have made I feel. One of the poorest moves that we, as a state, could have made was to make a big fuss over it. If nothing is going to be wrong, if everything is going to be all right, if there is going to be no release, if everything is going to be done correctly, what is the problem with having someone who knows what is going on overseeing this process. One of the biggest mistakes we made is to make a big deal over Hugh Kaufman. If everything is going to be fine, let the man come in here and prove everything is fine. If you want to continue to feed the distrust, make a big deal over some farmers and small town people grabbing an expert to help them out in a time of trouble, and then question it. If you want to make things worse, that is how we should act and that is how we acted as a state, and that is how we have acted for the past six or seven years. Do everything we possibly can to generate distrust with these people and don't do anything to make them believe and understand that we have some compassion with their problems. Just continue to tell them the same old line over and over, don't worry, be happy, everything is going to be all right. As I said earlier, we need a strong leader in this state for these people. We need someone to take control of this process and recognize that, yes, your concerns are valid, and I say this Legislature is going to have to be the body that does it, and I would oppose this amendment because, as I said, I feel these