April 18, 1989 LB 761

SENATOR McFARLAND: The November 8 vote on Initiative 402 retains Nebraska's membership in the compact. It does not, however, extinguish two major concerns of thousands of citizens who placed Initiative 402 on the ballot, that being the safe disposal of low-level radioactive waste and citizen input and control on the process. It seems to me that this whole process has been...has been stonewalled by the present administration. There has been a campaign of deceit, misrepresentation and subterfuge to not allow the citizens of our state a right to vote on this issue and if community consent doesn't mean the right to vote, I would like to know what it does mean. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Mr. President and members, I will be glad to try to explain to Senator McFarland some of the questions he It would be easy for me to become angry at his tone has raised. of voice and his implication that deception and deceit and chicanery were a part of the process. Senator McFarland, that is not true and I defy you to prove that that took place. I am fed up to here and to the six foot four, whatever the hell you are, with that kind of an attitude. You are fully aware, Senator McFarland, that there was a vote on LB 402...LR 402, and the people in Boyd County voted for it, 675; against it, 825...820 for. In Nemaha County it was 8,873 for it; 2,917 against. Nuckolls County, 943 for it; 1,933 against it. Now that was a vote widely touted as being the vote that was necessary to reassure the people of their participation in the process. Now you want another vote on a county level. If that were successful, Senator McFarland, based upon your principles and upon your attitude at this point in time, I could expect that you would then demand a vote upon the township level and, finally, upon the precinct and, finally, upon the very section in which it would be located. It is easy for you, as a newcomer on this floor, to stand here and criticize and chastise those individuals who took part in the early process. Senator Beutler voted for the compact. The compact became law by a 46 to nothing vote. Hindsight is the benefit of the newcomers in this body but you are totally wrong and I bitterly resent your statement that the administration has been...this administration, Governor Orr's administration has been involved in deceit and deception. That is not true. Governor Orr inherited a process that was approved by a democratic governor,