

entered the scene to spread dissension around our state. It's been said that the right to vote is similar to building a new courthouse or a new school. That's not true. This particular issue is of national importance, as well as statewide importance that we take care of the waste we generate. We don't ask voter approval to build a dam, to build a highway, to build a wastewater treatment plant or, as Senator Schmit has designated, a landfill of some sort. Obviously, no one wants that type of a construction across their fence. A sewer lagoon. No. A hog confinement. No. A big feedlot operation. No. A toxic waste disposal. No. But we, as a state, have to address these state issues. I think that the continuing pressure on the local citizens, the county commissioners, is unwarranted. I feel that an additional public campaign that would be involved in a popular election would be nothing but to drive further wedges between people and communities. Our siting process is...our siting process is progressing. As it's currently being used, we will have a successful siting of the facility. If we adopt the right to vote in the communities, I feel that we must, as a matter of course, then also adopt the obligation for the state to find the site best suited to Nebraska, place it there, put the local monitoring committees into place, as we have suggested, and proceed, though it may be delayed. I currently feel that among the three sites that are being considered that there is one that's probably suitable and to avoid further conflict we should not adopt Senator Dierks' amendment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Morrissey, please.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, because...just because we did our best many years ago doesn't mean that we shouldn't consider addressing the real problems that do exist with this process today. We've got a few things we've got to get on the record. Senator Abboud was worried yesterday that this was the last go-around on this issue, that we should address the problems today. I agree that the liability problem should be addressed today. We should come out strong and tell these other states that we've got a problem with the way this...our guarantees are in place with this Compact Commission. But, unfortunately, I don't think we can address all these problems today. For one, the question is our limited control and our limited say over what the compact does. So I think this is going to be an ongoing process, on into next year. We need to look at, in our liability study, the question of