

government. I do believe in local control, always have. I have always voted that way. I think you will find my record is that...supports that statement. I can't help but think that were I in the position that my constituents are in in Boyd County that I would certainly want my representative to do the things that I have done or tried to do for them. I can't help but think that the constituents of Nemaha County and Nuckolls County and Webster County or any other county in the state would have the same feeling. They want us to represent them and today I think this vote will give us the opportunity to give them that representation. They have asked us to provide them with the right to vote. My personal opinion is they have always had that right and, to me, this is just a way to cement that right. I only ask that you help me in advancing this amendment, attaching it to the bill even though I felt many times like I was Don Quixote fighting those windmills because the lobby is difficult, the lobby is extremely difficult to come up against in this situation, but I still think that ethics and integrity should be the call of the day and it gives us an opportunity to provide the people of our district the selection process, the right to vote. It gives them an opportunity to see us provide them our integrity and our ethics. I would like to give the rest of my closing now to Senator Scofield. Thank you.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Last year we had this same discussion about what is going to constitute community consent. And if you look at Senator Dierks' amendment, some of the language that is stricken on page 1695, starting with line 24, it says, "It is the intent of the Legislature that potential host communities be actively and voluntarily involved in the siting process. To the extent possible, consistent with the highest level of protection for the health and safety of the citizens of the state and protection of the environment, the developer shall make every effort to locate the facility where community support is evident." I didn't like that language. I argued last year that that's not going to solve the problem of community consent and, sure enough, it hasn't. And so I think what we did last year was we talked a little bit about we still need to define community consent and the voting provision was not adopted. But I think what that language really did is it put the burden to resolve this on the shoulders of the developer and, obviously, the developer hasn't been able or skillful enough to get us to where we are. And I'm not going to stand up here and point fingers at anybody. That's already caused some hard feelings on this floor this morning. But the fact of the