

April 18, 1989

LB 761

CLERK: 26 ayes, 6 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Debate has ceased and, Senator Chambers, would you like to close, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I would like to close by asking Senator Elmer a question. Senator Elmer, will you answer a question or two?

SENATOR ELMER: Certainly, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Have you read recently that President George Bush claims as his residence in Texas a vacant lot?

SENATOR ELMER: Negative, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: You haven't read that?

SENATOR ELMER: No, sir.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, thank you. Members of the Legislature, that is a fact. Senator Elmer just hasn't read it but it is a fact. So claiming a vacant lot in Texas, and there have been editorials about it, puts him in a position where he doesn't have to pay property taxes on his Kennebunkport residence where he actually lives. But, by claiming that vacant lot, he has the right of every resident of Texas even though it's clear he does not live there, there is not even a structure there. So some of these terms we attribute a magical meaning but when we come to the realities of politics, we know that they can often be manipulated and utilized to defeat the purpose for which a law might be enacted or the concept of residency might be established. What we're dealing here...with here in my amendment, and my intention is to so deal, a municipality that is composed, obviously, of people who have no expertise in any aspect of nuclear energy, nuclear fission, fusion or waste. I don't believe a person this floor could definitively tell what is going to be considered the waste that will go into that facility. For Senator Elmer, and maybe others agree with him, to indicate that a municipality can hire expertise does not get to the point. This that we're dealing with is unique in the history of Nebraska. Never has a facility such as this been placed in this state. So it is not likely we're going to have a similar set of circumstances where a municipality wants to reach