

required under federal law. Whether the wording in 289 is exactly right or not is somewhat moot. This is an issue that we need to keep before us, we need to keep alive, we need to pass on and allow the opportunity to be there for amendments. If it is not in shape for final passage by the end of this session, fine, but it is something that is going to impact each and every person that we represent in some way. It is probably one of the more serious issues with regard to the quality of life in Nebraska that we will be addressing this session, and I think that it is incumbent upon us as individuals to have an input into the development of 289 in a proper, workable form, and to share with Senator Schmit, and whoever else is directly interested in this bill, our suggestions as to how it might be made more workable or perceive problems that we might see in it. So I would encourage at this time the advancement of LB 289 over to Select File to further try to amend it into a form that will allow us to have a local site station that will provide the services that we have come to accept in our communities in a way that is affordable to the person who is operating that station. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Moore announces some guests in the north balcony. We have 28 fifth graders and their teacher from Seward, Nebraska. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. Thank you. Glad to have you. And from North Platte, Nebraska as guests of Senator Bernard-Stevens we have seven boy scouts and two adults from Troop 29 with Mike Rumery as the Assistant Scoutmaster. Would you people please stand. Thank you. We are glad you could spend some time with us as well. Senator Elmer, additional debate on the committee amendments.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. This bill mainly addresses the current and past sins we have committed against the environment in our petroleum industry. The problems are there. We know they are there. We need to take care of them. Most of the tanks in the rural areas of Nebraska that are underground are going to have to be replaced, removed, and when these are being replaced or removed, we will find those sins that we didn't really realize were there. The regulations that we now work with, mandated by the federal government, as Senator Schmit has so aptly said in his opening comments, are ones that have liability assigned to them. Insurance availabilities are such that a rural service station owner, a mom and pop type of an operation that are the bulk of these kind of facilities and