

session, this bill is being threatened by the opponents of locating the facility in this state. This bill is being threatened and this bill is constructed in order to help those people in the areas where the facility will be located. But with all these amendments at this late date in this legislative session, there is going to be, in my opinion, strong support for a motion to bracket until next year, a motion to bracket for next year. I don't want to do that. I don't want to do that. I want to deal with this bill this year. I want this bill to go forward because I think it is an improvement over our present statute, and I think every other person in this room will agree that it is an improvement, but the improvement is being threatened by a lot of amendments, and that is just plain fact of life. You saw what happened to the abortion notification bill. No longer on the agenda because of all the delays that occurred, and I don't know what the Speaker's notion is in regard to this bill, but I can see that, just from having some understanding about how this body operates, that this bill is being threatened by all of the amendments on here. Now, specifically, to this amendment, why do I oppose this amendment? This amendment is essentially meaningless. It says if the votes...you take the vote, and then you disregard them, take the vote and then disregard them after the vote is taken. You read, on page 2085, if the special elections provided for under subsection (1) of this section have been held in five separate counties, each election has resulted in the rejection of the site proposed, and the application for each site is denied, then the director may reconsider such application and grant a license. So, essentially, this is a meaningless amendment and we are spending a lot of time on a meaningless amendment which is really threatening the bill, which is a bill that is for the good of the state, and I don't think that should happen.

**SPEAKER BARRETT:** Thank you. Before recognizing the member from the 40th District again, Senator Kristensen is announcing 22 seventh and eighth graders from Hildreth Public Schools, with their teacher in the north balcony. Would you people please stand and be welcomed by your Legislature. Thank you. We are glad to have you with us this afternoon. Senator Dierks.

**SENATOR DIERKS:** Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I wanted to remind you also of the Attorney General's Opinion that we have. It is on page 2129 in the Journal. The opinion, we asked the opinion on the privilege of people to vote in a selected number of counties, and their opinion is that it is