

against the "right to vote", this might be a way to do it that could satisfy all parties. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Weihing, on the Landis amendment.

SENATOR WEIHING: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, Senator Landis, in his original talk on this, that is the Dierks amendment, was very true. When this issue first came up and Nebraska was asked or was designated and they began to have meetings across the state, the first meeting was held at Alliance, and it was taken over immediately by opponents, and the Department of Economic...not Economic but the Environmental Control didn't even have control of the meeting, never did have control of that particular meeting. It was highly volatile. The opponents had a great deal of press coverage and did continue to have press coverage for a year or so. I criticize those who would be proponents because they did not come out and tell the people really what radioactive, low-level radioactive waste was, in other words, educating. So as a consequence, we had two camps develop, two poles became very strong. This measure that is being proposed is to help to defuse this and say bring about what is maybe a nonemotional, more a nonemotional type of vote. As you know, I passed a letter out and I mentioned about...I mentioned Initiative 402. I want to read Initiative 402. "Shall legislation be enacted which would withdraw Nebraska from the Central Interstate Low-Level Radioactive Waste Compact, and which would require the approval of a majority of electors statewide and a majority of electors of the local area affected prior to the construction of any low-level radioactive waste disposal facility in Nebraska, other than nuclear power plants or facilities, et cetera." We have voted on the issue. The issue, the vote was 414,394 against, and 225,000...that is, that would permit the waste site to be developed, and 225,174 that did not wish. That was the vote at that time. As to whether or not a true vote can be had, and by that is now I am as strong for the right to vote as any individual here, but that right to vote must be honored by every citizen. As for democracy to work properly, the society must not be harassed, it must not be threatened, it must not be boycotted, it must not be intimidated. Those are not the elements of this, and it has to be an honest one in which the best judgment with regards to such a facility in their community and the safety of that in their community. I cannot say at this moment that I will vote for that amendment because I don't (interruption)...