

what the federal government shall be responsible for in terms of types of low-level waste and specifically says, "low-level radioactive waste owned or generated by the Department of Energy; low-level radioactive waste owned or generated by the United States Navy; low-level radioactive waste owned or generated by the federal government as the result of any research, development, testing, or production of any atomic weapon; and any other low-level radioactive waste with concentrations of radionuclides that exceed the limits established by the Commission for Class C radioactive waste, and so on. The reason for putting this in...and I have attached Massachusetts language as an example of another state that chose to do that. The reason for doing this is there are currently discussions going on in Washington about potentially reclassifying some of this waste. It's my understanding that the federal government may, at some point, have some interest in disposing some waste that they have responsibility for, currently. They may want to try to reclassify it and put it in state facilities. I wouldn't think we would want to just automatically agree to that and so this simply adopts existing federal language as to the definition of low-level radioactive waste but continues the current understanding about who is responsible for what. I think this protects the state from taking on perhaps unforeseen federal changes, although there is enough discussion to make me think that that might at some point happen. And so the purpose of the amendment is simply to make clear that the federal government will remain responsible for its waste and the state will remain responsible for its waste and there should be no question about who is responsible for what here. So, with that explanation, I would be happy to answer questions. If you don't have any, I would ask you to simply adopt the amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Schmit, please, followed by Senator Hefner. Is Senator Schmit here? Senator Hefner, would you like to speak until he gets here? Senator Morrissey, would you like to speak until Senator Schmit gets here?

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Yes, I would...Mr. Speaker and members, I would simply rise to support Senator Scofield's amendment. I will use one of the senator's...Senator Lamb's good arguments. We must state legislative intent in our bill and the intent here is to not take any of the low-level waste that is the responsibility of the federal government. I think it's as simple as that. With that, I would simply urge you to support