

somebody who is a good citizen, complying with the law that we passed, and now we're going to come in and say, well, if by some strange circumstance that your tank was discovered after this is effective, you qualify, but because your tank was found after we passed the law, they are not being reimbursed for one dime they've already spent, the only reimbursement they qualify for is like everybody else, after the effective date of the act and if they meet the other thresholds. And I don't understand how anyone can say that's an inequity.

SENATOR ELMER: I understand that.

SENATOR WARNER: It adds some cost, granted, but no one can tell you what the cost is of the bill, perspective, otherwise either.

SENATOR ELMER: I understand, Senator Warner, and I...

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time. Thank you. Before proceeding to the next speaker, just a very brief announcement. Representing, again, the Academy of Family Practitioners, we have with us this morning under the balcony as usual, Dr. Michels who is back with us again from Lincoln who simply tore himself away from his practice to be with us until about noon today. Dr. Michels will be here to the noon recess for your edification. Senator Nelson.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, this is somewhat a difficult amendment to stand up and oppose. I had a lot of first-hand experience and I don't want to take a lot of time on the floor if any of you happen to remember a small town close to Grand Island of which gasoline was down into the first water. This is exactly what happened, the very innocent person trying to do well and meaning very well was actually made liable for the damages. A father-in-law purchased a station for his son-in-law and there were bankruptcies and there was a death and there was estates and the previous owner and you name it. Through the cooperation of DEC and others and the Health Department, we were able to work through it, but I will tell you that the liabilities in this one instance, and I just know that it has to be small towns, large towns, probably hundreds of instance in the same thing, that if we start making a bill retroactive, this simply is untold amount. Sometimes you know if the funds are not there, there...things are worked out for the best that they can and most equitable for everyone else. I know it's good to go back to 1986, but Senator Warner named off