

don't very often say and very few politicians like to say. I just want to point out that in the last 24 hours I have been provided with information that we may have made a mistake, ladies and gentlemen, when we listened to the mandate from the Congress relative to the adoption of the low-level radioactive waste program. I want to repeat that. We were told and this Legislature accepted in good faith that there would need to be 14 sites developed for the storage of low-level radioactive waste, that if we did not follow a certain prescribed procedure, become a member of a compact, enact certain statutes, levy certain cost upon individuals, provide certain amounts of financial support, that terrible things would happen to the State of Nebraska, to the generators within the state and to the citizens of the state. I was one of the original legislators involved in that legislation. As a result of that and subsequently through the action of the Ag Committee when Senator Rex Haberman was chairman, we enacted the low-level radioactive waste compact law. Now I find out that we may be able to get along with as little as three of those sites and guess what? It is almost certain that Nebraska will be one of the fortunate three. Now, ladies and gentlemen, at the same time we're under pressure to enact legislation relative to solid waste disposal. I want to say again...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...the area of the low-level radioactive waste activity was the only time I can think of in 22 years that I did not challenge and research and develop evidence as to whether or not there was going to be a possibility of someone changing their mind. I didn't do it, I was at fault. I believe by, in contrast, that Nebraska was correct in not adopting the FIFRA legislation and I can predict to you today that if we do adopt this legislation, that the less than six figure cost that we spend today will mount to a seven figure plus cost in years to come and after that only God knows. So I would oppose the committee amendments at this time. I would oppose the bill. I would suggest that we defeat the bill, but I would like to give Senator Rod Johnson and others a chance to discuss the bill because I think we ought to discuss some of the aspects of this program...

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...and I think it's a good idea to do it.