

one knows how many people, just because some bureaucrat in the agency in Kansas City decides it has to be done. Ladies and gentlemen, if there is a problem, it is not because we didn't do our job. There is a problem because the EPA didn't do their job in their supervisory capacity. Don't blame us. They've been functioning for 15 years. They have the full responsibility. If there is a problem, write to Uncle Sam. How many times on this floor have we in the past taken a program mandated by the Congress, rubber-stamped it and then found to our chagrin that our constituents say, wait a minute, this is isn't going to work and they write to us. Ladies and gentlemen, why not save the postage, why not save the postage? If the constituency doesn't like the program, write to our congressmen, write to our senators. Actually, I don't even believe they're responsible because this bill was passed before any of them were there, but I can guarantee you that if you have a problem with EPA today with enforcement of the law, and you say it is not being enforced properly, I can tell you, you can write to any one of the five members of the Congress and you're going to get some action.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Because the Congress is responsible. We are faced today with declining revenues and that is going to continue for a while. We are faced today with a very serious drought situation. It is going to contribute to the defamiation of revenues. Ladies and gentlemen, this is not the time in my opinion for us to add to our burden additional financial cost. We didn't ask for it. It's been handled today, properly with no or very little expense to us. Why don't we just let them continue that way? It might just do one more thing, it might encourage those agencies to look twice before they mandate another program and say, let those farmers out in the Midwest pay the bill. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The Chair recognizes Senator Schellpeper, Senator Rod Johnson next.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. LB 161 probably isn't a perfect bill. I think there is some things that need to be worked out on it and I think that can probably be done, but it seems like it's much better to have Nebraska control our own destiny than have the federal government doing it. As far as the cost of 650,000, as Senator