

responsibility in this state until, in fact, the groundwater is contaminated and then the cost of remedial action there is ten hundred times greater than it is to prevent the problem. And as I said, I think Senator Schmit has filed a motion that I can live with.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Motion on the desk. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator, I assume Senator Schmit would move to bracket LB 161 to February 23, 1990.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, the reason for this motion, and I've discussed it with Senator Rod Johnson, is that it will give us an opportunity to discuss and debate LB 1099 and if, in the event that we have not been able to resolve our problem in some manner with that bill, then we can always come back to LB 161. I want to state for the record again, that if we were to pass LB 161, that doesn't change anything as far as the protection of Nebraska's soil and water is concerned. The only difference is that Nebraska assumes the responsibility for the supervision of that program. The feds already laid down the mandates as to what is required and what is not required except in this instance we said, okay, gentlemen, you've laid down the mandates, you've drawn the ground rules, you established the requirements, now you just get on your horse and gallop out here and you enforce them, and we're going to stand back and we're going to let you come into my farm and enforce those rules and regs and those statutes you have mandated. Now the difference if you pass 161 is that we throw that burden on the Department of Agriculture. Now we can, on this floor if we wish, make those requirements more stringent and we may want to do that. We can do so, ladies and gentlemen, without passing 161 as Senator Wehrbein has said. We can address a specific issue, a specific problem. Now let me give you a couple of for instances. You've all heard of Mead, Nebraska, the ordnance plant. Had a little problem up there. During World War II it was an ordnance plant. Contamination of the groundwater beneath the soil up there is causing considerable problems for residents in that area, caused by who? The federal government. Ever heard of Bruno, Nebraska? Probably not. You've heard of Waverly, you've heard of other areas. Again, groundwater, city water contaminated, ladies and gentlemen, by action taken by the USDA in treating stored grain. Now they're a little bit