

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President, I would. Frankly, I think maybe we should have a 48-hour cooling off period for the members that are going to be involved in this. As Senator Labeledz indicated when I mentioned this to her, I said I thought that maybe it would be a good idea if she and Senator Bernard-Stevens sat down and talked about this a little bit before we went any further, my concern again being that contrary to what Senator Schmit's concerns are about we change the rules all the time, that's all too often true, ladies and gentlemen, but I think there is good reason to bracket this for a couple of days and get back on this and work this out. I don't happen to believe that the end justifies the means, as was suggested earlier. And I don't happen to believe that we always make the best decisions in this body when we just vote to get something out of the way or to please people. You know, I would like to vote for this bill and a lot of other bills in here just because I like all of you and I want to get along with you and I think all of us find ourselves in that dilemma. And I think sometimes we move things because we like somebody else or we know they care deeply about that and we want to help them and it puts you in a real moral dilemma personally sometimes about saying, well, gee, I'd really like to get along with so and so and I would like to have him vote for my bill which is coming up pretty quick and so maybe we'll just go along and we'll get along. And when we get in that mentality that's when we make really awful decisions. And I would cite to you an example that happened in 1986 when, at the last minute, we stood up and amended a little bill. LB 491 was gutted and we stuffed in all the language that made us draw up the rules and regulations for the Low Level Radioactive Waste Compact, and I thought about that when you were speaking, Senator Schmit. And that was one of those times when I think we just kind of all wanted to get stuff done that day. I asked a couple of questions about that and, frankly, didn't know what was going on and neither did anybody else and away we all went. And then Senator Schmit's comments the other day about how we perhaps moved too quickly on that subject, and here we are in a mess with Nebraska likely to become one of the national sites for that, I think that indicates what happens when this body moves too quickly, doesn't take the time to understand things for expedient reasons or the desire to avoid the tedious discussion of things that we don't want to slog our way through, that we take votes that really do not serve the best interests of the people of this state, make us look foolish as legislators. And so, even though it takes time, I will always defend the right of an Ernie Chambers or a Senator