

Dr. Filipi in the rear. Thank you, sir, for being with us. Also under the south balcony, lifelong friends of Senator Frank Korshoj from Herman, Nebraska, Cameron and Mary Jane Jackson. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. Thank you. We are glad to have you. Discussion of the Johnson amendment, Senator Wesely, followed by Senators Morrissey and Hefner.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. I would like for the record to indicate support for this amendment and thank Senator Johnson for his work with some of us about this issue. Part of the amendment he has proposed incorporates some language that I had proposed on General File and then withdrawn in anticipation of this amendment being offered on Select File. The intent that I want to state again for the record should be fairly clear here, that our goal is to help unlicensed waste facilities, landfills, assist them to transfer from unlicensed to licensed status, to meet the different standards that we have, and to take care of that particular problem with these incentive grants. There is a prohibition against the grants being granted to any unlicensed landfill unless the grant is used to meet licensure standards and the landfill is licensed within two years after the award of the grant. I would assume, and this is what I want to have the department follow up on on this, would be as they develop the contract or however they would sign for the grant that would be issued that there would be something in writing that would indicate that the facility was going to become licensed and the grant was going to be used for that, and that there would be a provision, and if they did not succeed within two years of accomplishing that goal, that the grant would be returned back to the state and be allowed to be utilized by somebody else so that there would be a recovery provision if somebody did not fulfill the intent of this grant. Clearly, we hope everybody in good faith will carry out the provisions of the law, but if there isn't, there should be some follow-up, and there is no particular provision for that in the language of the statute, but I think, clearly, the authorization is there for the department to pursue this and to enforce it, and we want to make sure that is clear as we adopt this amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Morrissey, please.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, and members, I...just a few comments, I would like to point out the conflicting interest and the conflicting viewpoints, the