

County is going to continue to go through a process that ripped apart two other counties, and now the eye of the storm is even greater. And we need to send some sort of a message to the other compact states that there is...everything isn't all right, that there are problems that we need to look at. Last year when we dealt with LB 761, we changed some provisions so that we would have a compact commissioner who wasn't in the Department of Environmental Control. And the reason we did that is we're saying they're a little bit too close, you know, they're the regulator, they're the ones that are supposed to be checking on them. We don't want the people doing the checking being the people that also be the representative. Dr. Thorson is very, very close to being in that same position. And, with that, as I testified in the committee hearing, I think that's the danger of this appointment and I think that it would be wise for us to send a message that the siting process and the low-level nuclear waste issue in the State of Nebraska is not going to go away, it is not a Boyd County issue, it's not a Nuckolls County or a Nemaha County problem, it's an entire state problem, and it's one that we need to continue to address. And I would pledge any support I could to Senator Dierks, because he's got some concerns, Senator Morrissey has got some concerns that we listened to in Judiciary Committee and have passed out two bills that I think are very worthy for this body to look at, but that's not the issue today. The issue today is what sort of message do we send with this confirmation. As I look around the body, it's rather apparent to me that Dr. Thorson probably is going to be confirmed. But I think the message that we need to send is that this issue is not one that is signed, sealed and delivered, and all the problems are over, because they are not. Our problems are just beginning with this issue. And I think you'll see a sea of litigation. I think you're going to see a community that I'm not sure will ever survive this, that being Boyd County. And, with that, although I hate to ever stand up and vote against an appointment of someone who is bright, respected, this is one that I'm going to do that with, and it's not based upon the individual, but it's based upon the position that he holds and the message that I think we need to send at this time. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Morrissey, please.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Mr. President and members. Something Senator Crosby talked about caught my mind. We must...no one wants to suffer the consequences, if we don't