March 5, 1990

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Elmer, please, followed by Senator Labedz.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. President. We've been discussing the appointment of Dr. Thorson for several hours. I got up and spoke in support, to begin with, because of his extremely good resume and his undoubted qualifications. We have had a great deal of discussion from everyone on both sides of this issue. I think that talking about the compact, whether we should be in it, the laws we need to pass that will come out in the form of other bills are really not relevant to this confirmation. I feel we should get to that vote, get it out of the way, and address all of the concerns you all have about liability at the time we address the bills that address liability, not a confirmation. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Labedz, followed by Senator Peterson, please.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Question. -

PRESIDENT: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Debate has ceased. Senator Schmit, did you wish to close, please?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members, does anyone else wish to speak? If so, I'll give you a minute of my time. Senator Morrissey? Anyone else? Senator Peterson, you want to talk? Anyone else have anything to say? Cap? Senator Dierks? I want to be sure no one gets shut off, particularly since we may be a few short of votes this time, this soon after lunch. (Laughter.) Might have to go out and rustle a few folks up. There are a lot of things I could say, I could respond in kind to some of the remarks that have been made here. I would only hope that every other individual who comes before this body is as well qualified for the position they've been appointed for as has...as is Dr. Thorson. I would hope that, if I'm ever appointed to any position, that I can have as many persons stand up and say he's highly qualified, he's highly motivated, he's

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