

their own risk. They followed the existing statutes and they are operating today legally and environmentally safe. And for someone to say that we do not know how to build a site today is a lie, it's a plain lie. The statutes are there. I do not mind the criticism that has come my way because of the lack of progress in this area but, ladies and gentlemen, I would probably be accurate if I said 75 percent of all of the bills that have had to do with environmental improvement in this state have either carried my name or the name of the committee which was in charge in the last 20 years, maybe more. There hasn't been a great deal of support either on the floor or financially for us to assist the Department of Environmental Control in the resolution of this problem. We, I believe, have made some progress. I do not like the committee amendments. And Senator Beutler has said, I hope that Morrissey can accept the green copy, if that's the way we go, and Schmit could accept the amendments, if that's the way we go. What Senator Morrissey or myself accept is not important. What is important is that we adopt a position here which gives solid guidance and direction to the cities and villages of this state so that they can continue the progress upon which they have started. The cities and counties and villages are ahead of the Legislature. Most of them do not sit back and wait for the other shoe to fall. As I have said, those of us who live in rural Nebraska, who live in the small towns and cities of this state, we enjoy our style of life and our standard of living. We do not have the kind of problems described in a letter to Senator Labeledz where one of her constituents is concerned because a private individual wants to establish a dump in downtown Omaha. Apparently all it takes is a permit from the city.

SPEAKER BAACK PRESIDING

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I would suggest that we ought not to advance this bill today, that we ought to take the time to review where we are at, where we want to go and how we're going to get there, and before the bill leaves General File, we ought to have made that decision. General File is the place for discussion, debate, argument and resolution of problems, not Select File. And, again, I hate to sound like the old fogey that I probably am, but it used to be that very little debate took place on Select File, now we hammer and thrash and discuss bills all the way across the board. When a bill leaves General File, ladies