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really thank the Governor for what has happened with this legislation. And I just want everyone to support the bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Madam President, members of the body, I stand, of course, in support of this legislation. And I'm just elated because many of the things that are happening with this piece of legislation are things that we've tried to do in the past and really haven't been very successful with. And I just am pleased that we're able to now come to grips with the thing and provide what I think is some adequate protection for the people in my district that are so closely involved with this situation. I guess that I, too, would echo what Senator Schellpeper said, that we need to thank the persistence of the Governor's office in getting this...bringing this legislation to fruition. I'm very, very pleased with that. I'm very supportive of the help that he's had, and we've tried to offer some of our help, too. So I would urge that we go ahead and adopt these amendments as they're presented and get the bill on through General File today and provide what information is needed for the other compact states to go ahead with their legislation. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam President. Senator Beutler, I see that you're busy at work, but I would like to ask you some questions in terms of an explanation. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Could I ask you some questions specifically about the committee amendments, if I could.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Sure.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: On the first page we talk about the Central States Low-Level Radioactive Waste Compact may be denied access, people...any party state may be denied access. Why the word "may" and not "shall"?

SENATOR BEUTLER: As...my response to that, Senator, would be simply that we want to leave it to our prerogative to do...to