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joining the compact is actually ratify federal law by choosing to participate in the compact.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: That's right. We have agreed to that compact.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: And as we make amendments to that compact by state law, that has to be then ratified by Congress.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Right, which brings us back to the discussion that you and Senator Kristensen were in. It's your opinion, and I suspect I agree with that, that from all that we have gathered Congress has no interest in reopening this issue. So now my next question is, if Congress would refuse to ratify or even discuss or have a token subcommittee thing so people could go in and say their things and things die and nothing happens, which traditionally what happens in Washington when the states get into that, if they do not ratify what we have all, all the five states done, then I would assume at that point that all that we have done here is absolutely for nothing. It all hinges on what Congress does.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Well, Senator, let me clarify a couple points and I'll try and make this short since I'm on your time. When I mentioned that Senator Kerrey commented to the committee that there was no interest in opening this issue up, what I meant in that comment was that he said there was some question about what happens once Nebraska builds its facility, will other compacts dissolve and decide to join up with other compacts since there seems to be less of a need for, or there is less waste being generated. And Senator Kerrey indicated that it does not appear likely in Congress, or at least in the Senate on his side, to reopen this and reorganize all the compacts. The point that you made if Congress doesn't ratify these amendments to the compact, then, yes, I'm having it checked now but...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: I'm having your question checked out, but I would assume that this all goes for naught.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Okay, then would you be amenable when we get further information at a later time period and would it be advisable then for the body to put in a section that failure to receive Congressional ratification would make this bill null