

SENATOR SCHMIT: Sometimes I think that people sit on this floor just to daydream, and I know that sometimes it is difficult to follow the debate on the floor, and most of the time we try to say what we mean. Senator Nelson says she wants to give the villages and the second class cities some direction. That is exactly what the original bill did, Senator Nelson. It was plain and specific. It gave direction. After 20 years, it said, this is long enough, many of them have already complied, many of them are on the way to compliance, the introduction of the bill encouraged some of them to comply and to make other arrangements other than to dump in a creek somewhere, but the bill as amended today does not do that. Senator Morrissey says we are going to send you a message and it is going to be flexible. Senator Morrissey, statutes need to be specific. They need to tell you what you need to do, when you need to do it, and how you need to do it. Now you say there are no rules for closure. Let me tell you this, Senator Morrissey. A great many dumps have already been closed. How did they do it? Are you telling me no one knows how to close a dump? Then how did those dumps get closed that are closed as of today that were operating last year, five years ago, ten years ago? Of course, there are rules as to a closure of a dump. You don't just walk away from it. Number two, you say we don't know how to build a dump. I have heard that argument. How do you suppose private industry was able to finance the construction of dumps? Because there are specific rules and regulations and practices which must be followed for the construction of a solid waste disposal site at this time, and they are functioning today. The League of Municipalities sends the message, we don't know how to handle it. Nonsense, of course, we know how to handle it. We know how to handle it and it is being handled properly in a majority of the instances today. Now if you don't want to do anything, continue with the Morrissey amendment. Senator Rod Johnson has another amendment, which you may support. It stretches the deadline out till 1995. Now let me just say this. I do not think, one of my principal concerns with legislation is the disparity in the way we handle a problem. We ought to handle problems equally. If a feedlot out in Nebraska somewhere has a problem with their runoff, I can tell you that this Legislature would march out, 49 abreast, and say, stop it right now, cut it off, it's a threat to the water supply, it may be a threat to our health, it may be a threat to our children, and, bang, we'd do it. If a farmer has a problem with sediment running off of his farm into a stream, this Legislature would once again act uniformly, precisely, emphatically, and send a direction, stop