

be built in Boyd County, and that is not my decision. It is not this Legislature's decision. It has been pretty well decided it is going to be in Nebraska, and Boyd County at the present time is the preferred site. I would hope that we do not bracket the bill. I think it is unfortunate that we are discussing this bill at a time when we do not have a full complement of members on this floor, so that everyone can hear both sides of the debate. I just suggest to you that if we do not advance this bill, we are not acting in a responsible manner. And the Legislature is going to be responsible if, in fact, construction does not move as it is supposed to move according to the timetable. So I would oppose the bracket motion.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Senator Dierks, yours is the only light on, do you wish to use this as your closing? Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I am glad to make this my closing. Senator Schmit says that LB 72 is held in committee and nobody seems to be interested in doing anything about it. LB 72, Senator Schmit, is my priority bill, and I am anxious to do something about it. Maybe the people that don't want to do anything about it are mostly in the committee. You also say there comes a time when we have to do something and this bill should be passed today that shows we are doing something. I guess my question about that doing something is are we going to do the bidding of U.S. Ecology and the compact commission and the power industry, is that what we are going to do it for? Are we going to do it because we of our own volition believe it should be done? This is a piece of legislation I would like for us to become independent of those lobby forces out there and think for ourselves on. We have an opportunity today to do that. We have an opportunity today to think for ourselves, and ignore what is going on in that Rotunda, and ignore what is going on with the lobby. The lobby has tried to have influence on all of us over this issue and I think that some of that has been seen here today on some of the votes we have had. It is way past time for us to get beyond this lobby effort. I would surely appreciate your vote to bracket this bill and urge you to do that right now. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: You have heard Senator Dierks' closing. We will now vote on the bracket motion. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on the motion to bracket, have you all voted? Senator Dierks.