

Nebraska and this vote right here depends on that. I would urge you to defeat the bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Morrissey. We will go to Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. President. I named this my priority bill for a couple of reasons. One, the law of the United States says we're going to build a facility. Second, the laws also say that after all these precautions that are...have been made and the license has been reviewed, that part of the...part of the arrangement is that the state is going to own the property. The third point, and I am sure any negotiator for any corporation with any kind of prudence about the things that they are going to do, knowing that this license application is going to cost many, many dollars out of their pocket, are not going to proceed very well without knowing that they can meet that part...that part of the licensure agreement. There is no way to know, even at this point, whether a Legislature, this one, or one in the future, would be able to provide that necessary ingredient for their licensure. If we're going to continue this, be able to meet our obligations under the federal and state law that we are all sworn to uphold, then we need to proceed in good faith. There is nothing here that's going to threaten the state that I can possibly see. I would ask for the advance of 749...748.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Elmer. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, once again I support the bill with the Rod Johnson amendment on it. I do believe the bill is necessary. I don't blame Senator Dierks for his position. It's his district and he has an obligation and he's handling it well to protect the interests of those people up there. I think we also have an obligation to proceed in an orderly manner. Senator Morrissey refers to the federal regulation, but we know from past experience that we would be in difficulty if, in fact, it came down to the issue of whether or not arrangements have been made for the state to take control. What does that mean? Does it mean that this Legislature can jerk the bill around or the procedure around for another year or two or three? I think we know what that means. It means that if 25 people on this floor decide to vacillate, equivocate and stall, we can...we can stop the contractor from doing that which needs to be done. If you want to do that, then you vote against