

as possible so that our people, if they are hurt, will be completely indemnified. That's the only protection we have. We can pass a law here today that says that low-level waste site facility shall not leak any waste from its facility, and what happens if that occurs? Nothing. Will someone be arrested? Probably not. What are our protections? Our only protections are those in the liability section of our statutes. And I can't help but think that somehow, when they looked at those different states they looked at the State of Nebraska and they saw how, in my opinion, bad the laws are for the individual, and they said, you know this isn't a bad place to stick a low-level waste site. I wasn't involved in those negotiations. I guess we had as good a shot as anybody, one in five.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR ABOUD: But I view it as inexcusable that we don't protect our citizens. We have an obligation to build the waste site, I feel. But I also feel we have an obligation to protect our citizens. And why not bring those other four states into the liability laws. Why should the State of Nebraska be left holding the bag 20 years from now? I would urge the body to adopt this amendment and other amendments to make this bill a little bit better. I tell you, I'm quite baffled why the proponents of this bill, or the proponents of the entire waste site don't make the laws halfway decent for the people of this state. They have...we're locked into building this waste facility, no matter whose in charge of running it. And let's at least make the people whole, if some tragedy does occur down the road. I mean, yesterday I opened up the paper, right in the middle of it they talk about Chernobyl fifth year anniversary, and the billions of dollars that it cost...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR ABOUD: ...the Soviet Union to deal with that problem. And whose going to be left holding the bag, if we do, have problems with this low-level waste site? The State of Nebraska. Make those laws so that the corporations are liable, or that those other four states are liable.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Abboud. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I'd like to ask Senator Rod Johnson a question.