

reject the license on that reason alone and delay the process in that way. I am saying it should be done. We should tell them now we want it done, and we will not license the facility, we will state it explicitly in state law that we will not license unless an adequate sociocultural study is done. Some of the things that are allowed in 827 would just allow the Supreme Court to review the records, and they could look at it and say, did you do a sociocultural study, it is called for? The Supreme Court would just look at the procedures, yes, we did one, but no one can say it was a completely bogus study, completely contrary to the intent of the federal and state legislation, that couldn't be brought up under some of the provisions of LB 827. The Supreme Court could simply look at procedural things, and they could say, well, the study was done, so that is okay. So this is one of many aspects of 827 that I object to, but I would like you to concentrate now on the sociocultural study. I think it should be done. Anytime we have a controversial facility like this, national implications, national level legislation coming down, it has been a standard for 20 years, 20 years, and it has been reported by the experts in this field in the nation that this report, that US Ecology submitted, would not even stand up to the standards that we had in effect 20 years ago. It is that bad. I'd urge you to adopt this amendment and we will move on to the next amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Morrissey. Before I go to the next speaker, I would like to introduce some guests of Senator Morrissey. There are 32 third graders from Tecumseh Elementary and their teachers. They are in the south balcony. Would you folks please stand and be welcomed by the Legislature. Thank you for being with us. The next speaker is Senator Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members, my comments will be brief. I spoke on this particular amendment yesterday when we started on this issue, or the day before, when we last considered this amendment. I am in opposition to the amendment. I've expressed that to Senator Morrissey before. As I look at this whole social cultural characteristic study, I ask a lot of questions in my own mind about how it can be done. I realize it will be very expensive. Anywhere, the department estimates it could be for each site, and we are talking about three sites, not just one, three sites, anywhere from 60 to 120 thousand dollars to conduct the study. I am not worried about the money, but I am curious as to what the study will present to us. As