

deserve to be heard. And they have been pleading for this particular socioeconomic survey since they knew that they should have one, and that they could have one, that federal law said they should have one. It just hasn't happened. It is time for us today, I believe, to honor that request. I certainly hope you will support the amendment that Senator Morrissey has brought.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Before I proceed with the next speaker, I would like to introduce some guests of the Legislature. They are guests of Senator Moore. They are 50 fourth graders from the Centennial School in Utica, and their teachers and sponsors, and they are in the south balcony. Would you folks please stand and be welcomed by the Legislature. Thank you for being with us. Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members, it has been represented on this floor that no study has been done on this area. That is not the case. There has been one. It is not to the liking of some. Maybe the procedure, which was followed, was not to the liking of some, but to represent on this floor that there was no social cultural study done by US Ecology would not be true. Now, granted, I don't know what the results of that would be or have been but DEC will consider those in their report with all the other factors, and I just want to clarify for you that it has been said, at least a couple of times, that it has never been done, but I think, and I may stand corrected on that, but I am pretty sure that this area has been covered. It may not be the way it come out or the way that it came out with everybody's liking, but the point I want to make is, what happens if the study is redone? And we spend additional money, and the people of Butte tell us this is going to have a tremendous impact on our community to the better, to the good, but the people around the area, people in Spencer, Naper, or people in Holt County, or South Dakota, or whatever, say, well, we don't like it and it is going to be bad for us, what does that...what conclusions do you draw from that? And there are people, strangely enough, that you have been representing on the floor as saying that there is nobody in Boyd County that likes this project. Well, I've got a stack of letters that would choke a horse down in my office from people that are supporting the project, yet their voice is not heard here today. And I am saying, I am just curious as to what the report will tell us, and if it gives us conflicting reports or conflicting messages, how does DEC unscramble that question, because, as I said, there