

Schrock. They are 12 seventh and eighth graders from Funk, Nebraska, Funk Junior High, and their teacher, 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 Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I'm, of course, supporting this legislation, this amendment. We helped, actually were involved with the drafting of the amendment, and it does exactly what we think that LB 827 has to do. It provides the continuity of the monitoring committee and it does help us with the final site selection process. I can stand here, again, and tell you stories that I don't suppose you really want to hear. I can tell you about the little ladies that have come to me with tears in their eyes asking us to help, and I am not sure that that even helps anymore for us to talk about that. And it seems like that whatever we try to do here, it has been decided, and it was decided by those folks out there behind the glass, and we are not really having a whole lot of support here. I have to tell you about a little thing that happened to me about three years ago. We brought the first bill into this Legislature that would call for community consent, and that one morning we were having breakfast with Mr. Patton over in the hotel, and he was talking to Senator Kristensen, Senator Johnson, I believe Senator Morrissey, and myself, and what we were talking about was possibility of legislation, and so I asked him, I said, what if we were to get this community consent legislation passed, I said, and you had already decided that you wanted to put this in Boyd County, I said, what would happen? He said nothing. He said we wouldn't pay any attention to your community consent language. He said it wouldn't matter to us at all. If we make a decision we are going to put it there, we are going to put it there. It doesn't matter whether you like it or whether you don't like it. Now it has been that sort of an attitude that we have been blessed with all the while we have been talking about this legislation. It is just going to be shoved down our throats, and nobody is caring. Oh, I mean there are a few that are, but there is sure a majority that are not. It is evident by the way the votes go. I have had several visits, last Saturday night, for instance, I was up in Naper, Nebraska, to a potluck supper that some people had, and there were probably 300 people at that little meeting, all very hopeful, all hoping that LB 72 would come to fruition, all supportive. I wish you could have been there so that you could have seen what this means to those people. They, too, you know,