

a serious, serious matter, and I...Senator Kristensen, I enjoyed your speech from years ago, and probably at one time I was actually opposed to this approach until I changed my mind, and you changed your mind, but this is an issue that is vibrant. It is an issue that is of concern to the people in this country, and we know that because of the changes that are taking place back in Washington. And the changes that have taken place, even the most severe, strict approaches still do not even come close to the State of Nebraska. The Senate version only offered a twenty-year statute of repose, and I believe that we are looking at a situation where we will again be offering protection to states that manufacture their products and offering absolutely no protection to our own citizens. The states that...states that have no statute of repose, such as Iowa, South Dakota, Kansas, Missouri, all have lower premiums for their products than the State of Nebraska. Those are surrounding states, and I believe that we offer absolutely no protections to our citizens, or very little protection, with the approach that we have taken with the statute of repose.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR ABOUD: It hits home when we're involving the high-level waste issue. The two are merged together, and those individuals that are constructing the trucks as well as the containers that will be hauling this high-level waste should be held accountable if they make a defective product, and I don't believe raising the years a few years, up to forty, as the committee agreed to, is something that, something that we should overlook and we should show a greater concern for our citizens in the state for their possible injuries. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Abboud. Senator Bromm.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Madam President and senators. I would support the Kristensen amendment for at least a couple of reasons, and this subject has been talked about quite a little bit since...even since I've been in the Legislature, and this body has not seen fit to make a change in it up to this point. I would suggest, and Senator Abboud alluded to the action that is taking place right now at the federal level, there are proposals apparently in the House and the Senate, and perhaps there'll be a resolution in the Conference Committee on a federal suggested limitation. If we were of a mind to do something, I think it would be foolish for us to do it until we