

Abboud, did you wish to speak on the Hall amendment? Waives off. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: There is nobody else?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Actually, we have four other lights. Let me check, Senator Hall. Senator Dierks, are you wishing to speak on this amendment. I am just asking if you wish to at this point. Senator Kristensen, on this amendment, and Senator Preister on this amendment. Okay, so there are three other lights, Senator Hall, if you wish to speak. Senator Dierks, you are recognized now.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I stand in opposition to the amendment by Senator Hall, and I think you all understand very well why. My amendment or my bill that came to the Judiciary Committee was one that provided a hundred year statute of repose for these particular...these particular items that will be buried in that nuclear waste area. I don't think there is any way that you can equate an instrument or a piece of machinery and call the statute of repose the same as you would on a product that is put in this waste site. These things have a half life that even a hundred years doesn't cover. So I think it is necessary for us to provide that protection for the citizens of our state, especially in any area where these products are going to be stored or transported. So I would stand in strict opposition to Senator Hall's amendment and I would ask you to not support his amendment and to think of the people who are...who could very well be exposed to these types of products, if that were the case and the need for them to have support and retribution. Actually, I don't really believe forty years is enough, but, at this point, I am willing to accept that. I would oppose the Hall motion and would ask you also to oppose that amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Senator Kristensen, you are recognized now followed by Senators Preister, Hall, Abboud, Maurstad and Will.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I just wanted to make sure I understood what Senator Hall was trying to do, and I was going to buy Senator Dierks time to come in here. Here is a classic example of a veteran legislator who is trying to put you in a box a little bit, and he is pretty good, pretty good at it, but I want to