

March 28, 1996

LB 103, 634, 1201

closing. The question is the advancement to E & R Initial, LB 634. All in favor vote aye, opposed no. We're voting on the advancement of LB 634. Have you all voted? We're voting on the advancement of LB 634. Have you all voted? Record, please.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on the advancement of 634.

SENATOR CROSBY: The bill advances. LB 1201.

CLERK: LB 1201 by Senator Beutler. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 11 of this year, referred to the Natural Resources Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. There are committee amendments pending. (See AM3284 found on page 924 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Beutler to open on the committee amendments.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Crosby, members of the Legislature, first of all, I would like to thank very much Senator Dierks for prioritizing this bill. I think it's a good example of what goes on in this Legislature in the sense that he and I have been fighting tooth and claw on the water bill but there are an awful lot of things we agree upon and work on together and this is one of them. LB 1201 deals with the low-level nuclear waste facility and has involved a series of negotiations that actually began last year and we're almost finalized in LB 103 but we ran out of time. So the negotiations were reinstated over the summer and the fall with the utilities, with the Boyd County Monitoring Committee and with the Governor's Office; and this bill, 1201, as amended by the committee amendments, represents a very sensitive agreement among those three entities. None of the three entities like everything in the bill, but it is a compromise they're willing to go forward with, and I must say it's a bit of a landmark in terms of discussions on the low-level nuclear waste problem because I think it's the first time that parties have kind of voluntarily gotten together and agreed upon a series of concepts. Having said that much, let me just say briefly what the bill does and Senator Landis has one amendment that he's graciously agreed to run and, up or down, whatever happens with it, that's what happens and I'll try to orient you to that amendment and obviously give you the background and Senator Landis will give you his arguments and