

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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body, I raise...rise in strong support of LB 530. As most of you were made aware of earlier, one of the areas in my district was, in fact, one of the sites that were chosen, and all of you, I'm sure, are aware of the tremendous amount of bad feelings that were developed in Boyd County. There were certainly the same number of feelings developed in the county that was involved in this process before Boyd County was selected, and we don't need that kind of...we don't need that kind of disruption in our counties, in our areas, when there's no assurance at this point, at least as I've been able to understand it, that there even financial stability in order to carry out the funding of a...of a low-level waste site. Many people were told that this material, this low-level waste, is not dangerous and there were many misinformed statements that were spread around during this process. As a result, my own county that I live in originally had requested to look into this process, but because we saw what was happening or could eventually happen, and the attitude of people in the community who were divided on whether this was a good economic tool or whether in fact it could destroy the entire area, we decided to pull out. But Nemaha County was left in the compact and, of course, one of the reasons that I'm very concerned about it is, if you read in the handout that Senator Dierks put out, where it says they have stated that if the...Nebraska is forced to remain the host state that another site will be chosen somewhere in Nebraska, and I could tell you that probably in either Senator Schrock's district or mine, which were the two other sites that were under consideration, would probably be chosen. And we don't need that kind of disruption in the area that I live or in the area that Schrock...Senator Schrock lives or anybody else. There's certainly not a completely clear understanding of how this stuff would be taken care of in the out years, a hundred years from now, what would happen, and what the...we've talked all morning about destruction of our aquifer and our underground water sources and if, in fact, this should happen what would happen to it, to...to that...to that valuable asset that Nebraska has. So I'm just here to tell you that I think that Cap, Senator Dierks, is doing the right thing with this bill. I think we should get out of it. There's going to be costs, nobody questions that, but you know there's been a tremendous, tremendous amount of costs involved up to this date. And how's that being paid? Well, it's been paid by the utility companies. How do utilities