

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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the fact that...of the bill, the main bill itself. I'm not going to speak so much on the amendment, as I am on LB 530. I have reluctantly come to vote to do that. And I recall stringently a year ago supporting the study rather than outright withdrawal a year ago. Somewhere along the line, to me, we have a responsibility for this stuff, this generation waste, if you will. Apparently, we're in fairly decent shape at this time because, it's either North or South Carolina, I can't recall which, is presently taking it, and apparently will do it into the foreseeable future. And apparently, from my perspective and my observation, has been badly bungled at the federal level because we have much less need for storage sites across this country than we once did, apparently, for a combination of reasons. Some of you know those better than I, and if you do, I think it ought to be appropriate to talk about it. But assuming we need much less than we do today, we're more efficient in our usage and so forth and so on, this waste is still being generated, and to me, in my humble mind, we still have a responsibility to do this. And so what bothers me about withdrawing from this is in the long run certainly there's going to have to be some place for this stuff to go. So I'm not even sure in my own mind, by withdrawing, if that really does serve the long-term purpose of what we have a responsibility to do as citizens, not only this state, but this region and this country. So I was going to ask those questions on LB 530 alone, even though I probably was going to support it, but I'm skeptical it's an easy way out, frankly, it's the easy way out. Let somebody else worry about where the Med Center and the public power companies are going to go with their waste. And we're just going to wash our hands of it. I don't know the answer to that, and that's what bothers me; simply we withdraw, that's aside from all this lawsuit. And I hesitate to say a lot on the floor of this body because, in a sense, it's a pending lawsuit. And I would like to have someone wiser than me respond to the fact that I think some of the things said on this floor could be used against us in the future. And I'm thinking some fairly strong things about what has been occurring the last eight years, especially since it was apparently a campaign promise. What else could we have expected from a campaign promise in a fairly powerful position as a Governor? That's my observation. We joined this before I came here, so I'm not aware of all the intricacies of being involved and what happened in the contracts