TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

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That's why I think we have the bill in front of us, because the federal government is going to kind of ratchet down the amount of emissions that are allowed by our...by the people who...in this case it's mainly related to coal. But it could be somebody burning oil or natural gas, too, but coal is the issue, probably.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Two related questions: Could the state do this type of thing; namely, control emissions, without any federal law being in place?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Yes, we could adopt our own standards, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If the state does not-this is the second question--would federal standards automatically apply in a state which has not adopted a program?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Yes, they would, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And what this bill is going to do is stick with whatever the federal requirements are?

SENATOR SCHROCK: That is correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: In other words, the state program will not be more stringent than the federal program?

SENATOR SCHROCK: That is correct, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So we could have increased pollution, if the federal government decides to raise the amount of pollutants which can be in the air. Nebraska's level of pollutants would automatically rise also, or are we talking about the way the Clean Air Act existed on a certain date?

SENATOR SCHROCK: I think your last statement, the way it existed at a certain date, is a fair characterization of what's going on. It could change; we know that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But we would then have to change our law, if