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SENATOR ELMER: Senator Preister, would this then, when you say a government entity, be extended to the University of Nebraska and the state college system?

SENATOR PREISTER: Yes, I would assume that it's an extension of state government, so the university would likely be included.

SENATOR ELMER: Okay, and the same thing, the various counties, cities, and all of the local subdivisions throughout the state would have this...this same exclusion from the bill?

SENATOR PREISTER: State agencies, county agencies, city agencies, yes, Senator, that's correct.

SENATOR ELMER: Okay, thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Elmer. Senator Kristensen.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam President, members of the Legislature. I kind of feel like the turkey that is getting his neck stretched a little bit, too. Let me tell you why I'm going to oppose this amendment. What Senator Preister is proposing to do is say that subdivisions like schools, fire districts, university, and so on won't be able to have the protection or use the environmental audit procedure. You know in many communities the largest employer in that community is the schools, probably the biggest business in town. You take the city of Kearney, for example, the university is probably the largest employer in town, the largest business, and if we want to encourage good environmental practices, if that is a good public policy to have, then you need to extend this to them as well because, otherwise, you're going to allow a large group of people, large group of entities not to do it. You know, you take a fire district, for example, they probably would be one of the first people that would want to use and do these sorts of things that ordinarily they wouldn't do. I think the schools would be high up on that simply because they have a variety of things. They deal with so many people. They have so many events. They have transportation. They have wide chemicals. They have all sorts of things there in the school districts. They need to take a good examination of are they in compliance