

what is a sewage treatment plant? I don't have to tell any of you in here what a sewage treatment plant is. It is a plant obviously that chemically breaks down human waste and, ladies and gentlemen, there is a smell generating from that particular plant seven days a week, twelve months a year and you know how deplorable the smell of human waste can be. In my opinion it is a health hazard. It is a kind of establishment that should not exist where people live but you and I know that we are not in a position here today because of the fiscal impact that would be beset to the people of Omaha to move that plant. Let's talk about another plant that is within a mile of this particular facility in the City of Omaha and that is what we call paunch manure plant. You all know what a paunch plant is. We all in the City of Omaha know what a paunch plant is. We smell it every single day. Yes, Senator Murphy, and by the way, the third facility of course is the bale fill site where the huge collection of Omaha's garbage comes every day and of course you can well realize that wherever we put garbage today, you are going to have rats, you are going to have fleas and flies and rodents and, yes, Senator Powers, you are going to have smell. Senator Schmit can attest to all of what I have said here today because he and other members of the Ag and Environment Committee came down firsthand and saw the living conditions with which certain people in this state are subjected to every single day. Basically all I am saying in this amendment, ladies and gentlemen, is simply this, that we declare these particular disposal facilities a nuisance. Now what does that mean? Well, in my opinion what that means is this. It means that if a group of people want to take the city to court and when this, in fact, does go to litigation, then it would be upon the city, it would be a burden of proof on the City of Omaha to prove that no nuisance exists. Yes, we have spent thousands upon thousands of dollars in litigation currently in fighting the City of Omaha in their solid waste disposal facility on Second and Martha Street and it was rather interesting that during litigation and the judges finding, he said that the city was operating that particular plant contrary to state law and in a manner which constituted a nuisance. Now apparently, ladies and gentlemen, this has been going on for three and one half years and I think you are well aware of the fact that if that particular plant was operated by you and/or by me, the State Environmental Protection Agency would have closed us down...

PRESIDENT: One minute, Senator Venditte.

SENATOR VENDITTE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The City of Omaha was given a second chance and the second chance is