

was not very likely to become the facility. But we do need to become a member of the...or stay in this compact for purposes of financial reasons most importantly. And, as I said, I think it is a good and wise public decision to ratify this compact and to make the necessary changes for federal changes that were mandated back in '85. So, with that, I would urge the body to adopt this amendment, and, hopefully, later on before the session concludes we will get LB 491 passed with this material in it.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion on the motion? Senator Scofield.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Just a question of Senator Schmit, if I could, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Senator Schmit, I didn't pick up on the first part of your comments, and I was wondering if you could reiterate. You mentioned there would be a possibility of us becoming a dumping ground if we didn't ratify this year. Could you lay out what our options are, and what the results of each of those might be?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, there are several options, Senator Scofield. At the present time, I believe there are three sites in the United States that serve as a repository for this type of low level radioactive waste. They have indicated they do not wish to continue to serve in that capacity for an indefinite period of time. A number of years ago, I believe in 1980 when the Congress passed the Low Level Radioactive Waste Policy Act, the states were required to join the various compacts. As Senator Rod Johnson indicated, Nebraska joined, is it the central states compact? Central states low level radioactive waste compact, and this requires ratification by the various legislatures by December of 1986. If we do not do this, there are several things that would happen. First of all, we would not meet the congressional requirement that we have to have a site chosen by December of '86. Secondly, if we did not do this, there would not be any vehicle to collect the \$25,000 compact fee, which presently is paid primarily by OPPD and NPPD. And, third, if we did not do this, there is a chance that the other states would, in effect, vote us out of the compact which would mean that we would have