

is going to be very difficult for some of our NRDs to come up with the proper standards to do it. This is a responsibility of every citizen in the State of Nebraska. We have all contributed to polluting our groundwater. Even you urban senators have contributed. You throw your waste away, it goes to the landfill, and that is contributing to our problems. We've all got to learn to take care of our waste, to take care of what we are doing to our land. Many of our farmers today now are testing their soil, they are testing their water so they are certain that they are not going to put any more actual nitrate on that is needed for the crop that is produced and I think that is very important. I was going to consider putting the amendment on that required them to do this. But I feel it is coming. Our people are doing it. I can see it in my locale. I can see it with... the county agents are very much at work today in trying to get people to do these things and I think this will resolve the problem. Now, what has happened has happened, and we can't do anything about it. There is no way that we can pull that nitrate other than pumping it back out and putting it back on the land and letting the crop use it. But once it gets below the root zone there is very little that we can do until nature takes its course. The water will slough itself off and finally will slough off. Now this will happen in many years. But today some areas of our state it is serious, it is very serious. We've got to think of what we're doing. I'm sure that the NRDs are now looking at it, they are monitoring it and that is important, and that is what Senator Schmit's bill is doing. It is telling if there is a real serious problem, they can establish a control area, start an attack so they can look into it and do a better job. But I'm fearful that that isn't going to do it. We each and every one have to do it, and that is what I want to impress upon everyone in the State of Nebraska that it is serious and we must get with it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members, I hope Sandy does run out pretty soon because I'm going to run out of voice. She's about got me beat down. But, in all seriousness, I understand her concern. She has a legitimate concern and one which we discussed at great length in the drafting of the bill. This almost identical language was proposed upon several occasions and was rejected. And, as I indicated in earlier amendment, had it been included in the bill, I do not believe we would have received the kind of unanimous support we did. Senator Sieck has pointed out there have been some errors made, not only on