

that has not been dealt with in the State of Nebraska or for that matter any place is how are we going to pay for some of these things. Groundwater quality protection is expensive. There are many philosophical issues out there that need to be addressed. There are many options for paying both for prevention and for clean-up activities and you have heard both Senator Schmit and me make that point many times this year. I continually remind people of a problem we have had with the education bill that we passed a couple of years ago, LB 994. A nice idea, a good reform bill, basically, a very expensive bill and the bucks simply haven't been there. And my concern has been that while this Legislature has done a good job this year, in my opinion, of moving in the right direction on addressing groundwater quality programs, and I would commend Senator Schmit for the work he's done in that direction, I think he and I both agree that financing is an issue that has not been adequately addressed yet. We don't know, in some instances, how we are going to pay for that and that is intensified particularly by the budget situation that we face this year as a state and the budget situation which, as a result of federal decisions, are going to continue to face us. So this simply asks the Environmental Control Council to put together a report and evaluate the various kinds of mechanisms that might be out there that other states are using, or other ideas that they might have to help us figure out how to pay for these very worthwhile programs. So, with that, I would urge your support of the amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, Mr. President. I support the amendment. As Senator Scofield has pointed out, there is going to be a need for us to be somewhat innovative in trying to fund some of these expenses. I think it is important to recognize that I did introduce, upon several occasions, a bill relating to the creation of a super fund. It may be necessary to do that. I believe that the language that has been outlined by Senator Scofield addresses that issue and directs the Department of Environmental Control to take some action. I support the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Is there further discussion on Senator Scofield's amendment to the appropriations bill? Any closing, Senator Scofield? Motion is to adopt the amendment offered by Senator Scofield. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. The motion is the adoption of the Scofield amendment. Please record