

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Next on the list is Senator Coordsen. Senator Coordsen waives off. Next is Senator Haberman. Senator Haberman waives off. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, one of the newsmen just said this bill fits a perfect description according to my standards. But, actually, I really support the bill. I recognize that much of what Senator Beutler has said is true but I can tell you that it is very helpful for the agencies to know that a Standing Committee of the Legislature can take a look at rules and regulations. Time, after time, after time, we have seen this occur, that an agency will adopt a rule or regulation much more stringent, much more capricious, much more odious than anything we would dare to pass on this floor. To give you an example, last year we had LB 289, the underground tank bill, a bill which has caused me a great amount of anguish and concern as well as, I might add, most of the people of the State of Nebraska, directly or indirectly, and will continue to do so. It was bad enough the way we passed it but my good friend, Mr. Wally Barnett, over in the Fire Marshall's Office, decided it wasn't bad enough so he made...he, by rule and regulation, said that you had to be a licensed backhoe operator to dig out an underground tank. And so the price for digging out underground tanks went from 250 per tank to \$2,500 per tank. And I saw a picture in the Omaha World-Herald of a young man who had bought thirty plus backhoes just to comply with this rule and regulation. Every little community in the State of Nebraska has someone who has operated a backhoe for 30, 40 years but under this provision of...by rule and regulation of the Fire Marshall of the State of Nebraska, and I have a lot of respect for Wally, those individuals who have been operating backhoes for years were not licensed, couldn't dig out a tank. Now that's just one example and Senator Coordsen, I'm sure, has many more, because we have discussed the underground tank bill in some detail. But the longer you're here, the more you realize that we can pass the most innocuous bill on this floor and by the time it gets through the rule and regulation process, ladies and gentlemen, most of us ought to be hanged from the rotunda because of the adverse impact it presents to the people of the State of Nebraska. That is the secret of success in government, pass a bill on this floor, give the rule-making authority to the agency and let them run off. The next thing you know you've got more people, you've got more demands for money, you've got people on top of people and mostly they just administer themselves instead of performing the responsibility that the