

February 26, 1991 LB 67

and very time-consuming. I think LB 67, as amended by the committee, is a very reasonable approach to this problem. As I said, I have no hidden agendas on this. I am trying to do what is right. I have been talking to a lot of people. I have gone to many meetings in my district on this for the last couple of years. Talk to your people. Talk to your people. Are they ready? Are they comfortable with how they will finance what they might have to do in the future? Are they comfortable with the importation and the lack of control on that? Are they comfortable with us telling them to close their landfills and giving them no direction or telling them how to close them? I don't believe they are. From what I have been hearing from a lot of people...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: ...and those people I talked to Saturday were from all across the state, a mix of people and interest from all across the state, Lincoln, Omaha, western Nebraska, northwest, southwest, northeast, central, north central, south central, all across the state, and they said, we are ready to address the problem. We want to close these landfills, but you have to give us some direction. You can't just tell them, close them and not worry then about what happens to our garbage. I'd urge you to support Senator Nelson's amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Morrissey. I will now recognize Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Madam President and members, I guess I am somewhat in agreement with Senator Schmit. I thought about this issue last night quite a bit and I have come to the conclusion the bill, as it is currently written, as amended by both the committee amendments and the Lamb and Beutler amendments defeat the purpose of the original bill and defeat my particular interest in what we are doing here today or what the bill perceived to do, which was to put a date specific in the law as to when we are going to say licensing of landfills is going to occur. Not closure, that is an option, obviously. We are saying that everybody has got to be at the same level, everybody has got to license their facility or close them. And I think with a date specific in mind or in this bill, you bring everybody together. You put everybody in the same boat, and I was talking to Senator Hillman yesterday as we adjourned, and she was relating to me a situation in her area, and she might