

Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Any discussion on the committee amendments to LB 237. Mr. Clerk, an amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senators Bromm and Bernard-Stevens would move to amend the committee amendments with AM1822.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Bromm.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, fellow senators, Senator Bernard-Stevens had a bill, LB 144, which was also heard by the Natural Resources Committee. There were no opponents to the bill. It was advanced on an 8-0 vote and basically what that bill does which is incorporated into this amendment along with another little aspect of my bill, provides that the Department of DEQ, Department of Environmental Quality, once they receive a plan for remedial action where there is a leak or a problem that needs to be corrected, they must inform the person submitting the plan, the owner or operator, of the approval or disapproval within 120 days after receipt of the proposed plan. If they fail to either deny or approve or amend the plan within that 120 days, the proposed plan shall be deemed approved. Now the impetus for this was that due to workload and so forth there could be great extended periods of time passed when people had submitted proposed plans and they would receive neither an approval or a disapproval. It was a matter of delay and in some cases would postpone actions that should be taken or sales of property and so forth. Actually in the hearing the committee had on this particular bill, 144, there were no opposition and DEQ, if I remember right, actually came in and said, yes, we support this time frame and we think that's reasonable. So there really is no opposition. Now the second part of this amendment deals with my bill and I think if I could indulge and impose upon the body just for a moment, I handed out a diagram which I will briefly explain and it has some arrows in the upper left-hand corner. It has Station B and it has Station A and I think if I go through this a little bit you will understand, as clearly as we can, my...the intent of my bill which is affected by this amendment and is the crux of 237. Let's say we have a situation where Station A is ordered to investigate a leak. Station A incurs some expenses. Now there's a deductible and so forth and then you get into where the fund participates in investigation and cleanup. But let's say that Station A expended, for example, \$5,000 just disregarding the deductible