

SENATOR SCHMIT: I'd rather not, but I'll answer it anyway. Actually, Senator, I don't believe there is. We have...we've been preempted. We have sat here like the dog in the manger on a very valuable resource. We have not developed it, we have not utilized it, we do not have the people here to utilize it. My good friend, Editor Dick Herman, said let's bring the people to Nebraska rather than to take the water to the people. Well, I'd like to do that. I've not yet devised the method whereby to bring them here. If, in fact, there is a way to give this Legislature that veto authority, I would be the first person to demand it, but I do not believe we can overrule the U.S. Supreme Court and, therefore, if the court says it is going to go, it is going to go. I think that we have a right to reasonably protect our resources and I think we have done that. I hope, Senator Johnson, that when 146 becomes implemented and we do an intimate...a really good study, that we can answer many of those questions. I'm not saying that we're going to get all the ideas that I want enacted into law, but I believe that this is an important step and if, in fact, the study shows we should do something different, then we ought to do it. At this point, based upon the information I have, based upon the best information available to those who have advised me, I must concur with them that the Legislature does not have veto power over the U.S. Supreme Court. Mr. President, I would move for the advancement of the bill if Senator Scott is not around.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Before recognizing Senator Scofield, I am pleased to announce that Senator Labeledz has two very special guests under the south balcony, her daughter, Toni Lenagh and Toni's aunt, and her aunt, Bettie Lenagh, under the south balcony. Please stand, ladies, be recognized. Thank you. Senator Scofield, please, on the advancement.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Just a quick question for Senator Schmit, if he'd respond.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Will you respond, Senator Schmit?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, Senator.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Senator Schmit, with regard to advancement of the bill, you and I have talked briefly at least about the Sporhase decision and the constitutional questions that are here and I guess one other thing I'd like to clarify, just cleaning up the language as you have done here, putting some criteria