

June 7, 1993

LB 38, 301, 302, 389

vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Read record vote. See pages 2783-84 of the Legislative Journal.) 43 ayes, 0 nays, 3 present and not voting, 3 excused and not voting.

PRESIDENT MOUL: LB 38 passes with the emergency clause attached. LB 389.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Beutler would move to return the bill for a specific amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this is a sad moment for me because this has turned out to be the most lobbied bill of the session. And what's being lobbied against is the basic American right of one person, one vote. And it's very sad for me because of all the forces out there on the water issue, it appears that there are significant number of people in this Legislature that want to give in to the most negative, the most nonconstructive forces out there on the water issue. It's not even like LB 389 is the biggest bill in the world. It asks for one person, one vote on the NRDs. There are a number of ways that they can change their voting system that probably will cause very little change in the way they operate. There are eight or nine NRDs out there right now that operate with one person, one vote and nobody has been able to present on the floor of this Legislature one shred of evidence as to how the rural interests have been prejudiced by this change. I've worked my keister off on LB 301. I've worked hard for LB 302, the western water rights bill, not an inch of press on that, but it's straightening out 100 years of water rights catastrophes out there. I mean, if you wanted to make something an issue, there's an issue. And I notice on the little list they passed around, the Well Drillers Association signed their name to that after I worked two years to put their organization back in shape so they could operate. Talk about ungrateful. Well, I can't count votes exactly, but I know I need every one I can get, and I know Senator Warner is not here. And I know there are a couple of people that just can't commit so I can't count 25 quite yet for sure. So I'm in the position where I'm just going to be filibustering my own bill here until Senator Warner gets here because I want everybody on record and I need the 25 votes.