

March 19, 1979

LB 26

to support it. LB 26 does have a lot of good points, and is clarifying to the law that was passed back in 1975, and I do feel that we should support LB 26. Thank you.

SENATOR LEWIS: Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise in support of Senator Kremer and his move now. I believe that with the uncertainties that we hope to clarify, at least to some degree in this session of the Legislature, that this bill is going to be alright. I know that in my area, where we do have some shortages, that there are efforts being made now by the NRD to keep a close eye on what the water level is doing, and I believe that the NRDs will set their priorities, and if the lowering of the table and the supply is that critical, that area is going to get first attention. I think that down the road we're going to be looking at water problems, and if we look for a time that's appropriate, we're never going to find it. We've been going through this process for years. It's high time that we now address it, and start addressing it, and I believe that 26 is the step in that right direction. Senator Kremer is very wise and has lots of foresight in this, and I believe he's analyzed the situation correctly with his procedure. I wholeheartedly support it and hope this body does also. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR LEWIS: Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President and colleagues, I thought LB 26 was good before Senator Kremer amended it out. I saw nothing in there that mandated the metering or that mandated the additional mill levy. It was only tools that were made available to local Natural Resource Districts in case they felt that they needed them. I think if I've heard it once on this floor, I've heard it time and again and I think Senator Schmit has led the charge on this, that one of the problems is that we're not getting enough activity and enough effective action on behalf of the Natural Resource Districts, and if it's a matter of giving them the flexibility and the wherewithal to operate and effectively solve these problems, then I'm all for it, and I think LB 26, before it was amended, or before we adopt this amendment, does just exactly that. I'm in favor of 26, very strongly in favor of 26, and I'm really not for weakening or diminishing the total overall effect of the bill, and I think that's what Senator Kremer is now