

to determine a fair way to look at representation, because the numbers are very clear. The numbers are very clear and they are overwhelmingly rural. So if there is this much resistance, if it excites Senator Cullan and Senator Kremer that much, maybe there is a good thing going for some and not for others and maybe we ought to reevaluate that commission and maybe we ought to turn the control back, instead of delegating it out that they spend general fund money by programs, that we do it ourselves. Perhaps that is the best approach and perhaps I should use that approach when we get to the budget. This bill is not going to go anywhere today one way or another with the absenteeism, with the splits. I will just withdraw that amendment, Mr. President, and I will adequately place it where it logically belongs and that is with the appropriations bill when it comes forward. I withdraw my amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President and colleagues, the old nose in the tent. Next thing we will have the whole camel in there. They will want two representatives and then three and then Lincoln will want one, Columbus will want one, Kearney, Grand Island, Scottsbluff. It just seems like we have been down this road before. I think maybe this might be a band aid approach. I think Senator Lewis was hitting the point that maybe is probably a little more pertinent than the bill right in front of us and that is the overall representation of Natural Resource Districts and also of the Natural Resources Commission. I think when we specifically put in a ground water user and a surface water user along with the twelve other river basin representatives who more than likely are to be agricultural representatives, it is not asking too much that we put a municipal representative on there more than just a chance appointment by the Governor. I am going to support Senator Goodrich in this bill. I think...but I also think that it is only one step before we go farther down the road to determine exactly who and how this representation is brought about. This commission does some pretty important things that should affect everybody in this state. They make the decision on certain projects that come out of the Resource Development Fund and, you know, it is kind of ironic, there hasn't been one city project approved until this year and this year finally one municipal project was approved. The first one I think on the list is now about twenty-one or twenty-two. I think it is ironic that all the previous projects approved are on a 75-25 basis and now suddenly it is on a 50-50 basis and that concerns me. First of