

process especially when you are building something like headquarters buildings or administration buildings where those who make the decisions about whether to build are going to be sitting and working and enjoying themselves. So I wanted to at least give the Legislature the opportunity to put in the election requirement and I think in this time when voters are upset generally with spending that they would appreciate having the power to vote on a question like this on expenditures like this. So with that introduction, I would ask you to consider the amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Wagner, do you wish to speak to the Beutler amendment?

SENATOR WAGNER: Yes, I do. Mr. Speaker and members, I would oppose the Beutler amendment and let me kind of give you some examples. First of all, there are other public subdivisions that are allowed to build buildings, warehouses, and these are public power districts and public power and irrigation districts, ESUs and some of the others. But I think probably that more of the thing I would like to point out is the fact that the other day in a committee hearing Nebraska City held a special election. This is a town of 7400 and they spent \$2000 in this special election. The Lower Loup District is one of the biggest in the State of Nebraska and it is about one-tenth of the state. There are approximately 70,000 people in there and it is estimated that there are probably about 15 to 18 thousand people vote in election. Also had some figures provided to me that it would run about \$15 per vote to hold a special election. Now the Lower Big Blue in 1976 had the opportunity to go ahead and purchase a building for \$25,000. Today they have spent over \$29,000 in rent. Now that 20...they could have purchased the building and had it and saved a few dollars besides. But if we go to a special election and chances are there would be, you could also go to a general, but I think we could really probably expend more dollars in holding a special election than like in the case of the Lower Big Blue. You probably would spend about as much for the special election as you would the building, and therefore I would oppose the amendment.

SENATOR CLARK PRESIDING

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. Chairman, members, I rise to oppose the Beutler amendment. I did in committee. Here again.