

dollars that may go to a Narrows Project or it may go to an O'Neill Project and we were able to use that money in the State of Nebraska. Where would we spend it? In my idea would be to spend it on these medium sized projects on conservation efforts, and we would have more than enough need there for those types of projects that would use that money and save water and retain water and serve the entire state and not just one area. And so I think at the bottom line is a philosophical question when you consider this resolution. Where best can we spend our money? Certainly at some point perhaps these large projects are justified. I don't oppose them without question. Of course there are times when they are needed but I think when you talk about priorities and when you talk about priority spending and when you talk about spending 300 hundred million dollars at the minimum, up to a billion dollars of taxpayers' money, perhaps we ought to reassess the situation. Perhaps we should not as a State of Nebraska take a position in support of such a costly project when there are so many other considerations that we need to look at and I think that the fact that I signed the resolution that I am now talking against it indicates that perhaps we should go slow in supporting such a resolution. Perhaps we should not support the resolution at this time, spend more time looking at this situation and keep in mind the cost involved, keep in mind the taxpayer which is really the concern that I think we all have but I think these projects are not fiscally prudent and I certainly support opposition to this resolution.

**SPEAKER MARVEL:** Senator Vickers.

**SENATOR VICKERS:** Mr. Speaker and members, I rise to support the Public Works Committee in this resolution, LR 26. I am a little bit surprised at my good friend and colleague, Senator Wesely, and the comments he was just making. I thought that he had served these number of years on the Public Works Committee and was beginning to understand part of the water concerns and the water problems in the State of Nebraska but perhaps maybe not. He mentions that we should have more conservation expenditures for small projects and that is great. That is fine but first of all you had better build the projects where the water is at. It does not do a whole lot of good to build a project out there in southwestern Nebraska where we don't have any water anyway. If you are going to build a dam or you are going to build a project, I don't care what it costs, whether it costs 300 hundred dollars or 3 million dollars, the 300 hundred million dollars, you better put it where there is going to be some water impounded. I am also a little surprised at Senator Wesely would not be able to understand why Nebraska would be perhaps more concerned