

that our amendment will give you what you want only I think it will put us up in front and demonstrate to the feds that we are willing to put our money up there and if we do this along with some kind of a contract or some kind of agreement with two of the other Old West states, that we have got a reasonably good chance to get some federal money but we are going at it backward. Let me give you an illustration. I have been informed that some of the southern states were interested in cleaning up the channel in Mississippi bar traffic in the Mississippi River. The request has been on the docket for a long time and nothing happened until some of the southern states around the gulf put some money up there and it was only about a third of what was needed for the project. The minute they did that it was only a short time until they got the money from the feds. Now what I think we ought to do is demonstrate our faith in what our Board of Regents will do and put some money in there and if it is not going to be built that money is not going to be wasted. It will come back in the general fund again. Senator Beutler, I simply have to oppose your amendment. I think the amendment we have up there is going to work and it is going to give us exactly the protection that you are asking for in your amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. Speaker and members, I know that this is a subject that is going to be delicate to handle because we are trying to get federal funding. We can not get the federal funding without the commitment from the State of Nebraska. It is just that simple. One of the reasons I would oppose the Beutler amendment I guess, in what dealings I have had with the federal government with fundings which have not been all that much but I have had some in the past, to pin it down to an exact amount is tough. We may well want more than 13 million before we get through if inflation continues. So, I would rather leave the bill the way it is at the present time. I think we are trying to take care of the anxiety with the amendment that has been passed out which I hope will come up later that this large amount of money that we are appropriating in Nebraska will not be spent until we do get assurance of federal funds and also that two other states will be involved. I think that is the big thing we are trying to do and how we do it this morning depends on a lot of things and how many obstacles are thrown up and how you want to go at it. We cannot put pressure on our congressional delegation unless Nebraska is sincere in pushing and wanting to get behind this program. I, too, want safeguards in it. I have money invested in the industry's fund. You had your choice when you did that, whether you