

April 10, 1981

LB 243

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, in that case, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I would like to very strongly oppose the bill. There are a number of unanswered questions as well as a number of comments that I would like to make. To begin with I think I would like to ask Senator Schmit a question or two if I could.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, Senator.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Schmit, with regard to the bill, there is no grandfather clause for any projects that have begun already. Is that correct?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Absolutely not.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Absolutely not. With regard to the Red Willow project as I understand it, somewhere in the neighborhood of 900 thousand dollars has already been spent for the development, for the beginning, for the feasibility study and the beginning of the development of that project. Would this bill mean that that money would be wasted as a practical matter in the sense that obviously they could not get eminent domain rights in this situation on a voluntary basis?

SENATOR SCHMIT: I am not sure that project...is that the project that will have surface acres of about six hundred acres, Senator Beutler?

SENATOR BEUTLER: I think so.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Okay, the amendment that I am offering will exempt projects over five hundred acres so that project would not be impacted.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, so under your amendment that project would not be impacted.

SENATOR SCHMIT: That is right.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Are there any other existing projects or projects upon which money has already been spent that to your knowledge would be impacted with your amendment?

SENATOR SCHMIT: There would be no impact upon the Oliver Lake project because the Natural Resource District can operate that project. They can fish and swim and boat and water ski on that lake. The only thing they would have to do if they wanted to use that small portion of shoreline that belongs to Mr. Singleton, they would have to either negotiate an easement or purchase the land from him.