

poor. I represent a section of the Republican Valley that certainly could use some more water and as a matter of fact has got an appropriation in for the interbasin transfer of water. My District also, however, goes clear to the Platte River on the north. The division between the Platte and the Republican runs right down through our place. So I guess you could say that I can see both sides of the issue. I consider myself for transbasin diversion. I think it is important in the future that we allow the spreading out, if you will, and making sure that we are using all the water that we possibly can any place in the State of Nebraska. But the reason I oppose the kill motion though is that philosophically I agree with Senator Beutler to the degree that we, the Legislature, should set the criteria that the Director of the Department of Water Resources uses in determining whether to grant or deny appropriations. I think it is our job and not the court's job. If we don't do something in this body, the courts are going to do it for us, and I think we are supposed to be the body that makes those policy decisions. Now having said that, I will also say, as Senator Schmit did, that I have got some problems with LB 252. I have read the bill and there are certain words in it that I disagree with and I think Senator Beutler knows it, and is aware of the fact that there probably will be some attempts to amend his bill because I personally believe and I am glad that Senator Beutler pointed it out, I personally believe it is too pro toward the water rich areas or the basin of origin. I think it should be more balanced. And I will work toward that end. I appreciate my good friend Senator Kremer's comments and I understand exactly what he was saying, but in this instance, as I say, I think it is our job to face up to the issue. One point I think needs to be made, as Senator Beutler pointed out, it is in litigation. Senator Goodrich pointed that out. We passed a bill this morning that had a section in it, it went over there just with flying colors, that addressed a situation that is in litigation also. Nobody raised any real big concerns about doing that. So I can't see that there is anything wrong with trying to address the situation that might be in litigation right now in this instance. I believe this is a serious issue. I think each and every one of us should examine it very carefully, those from urban and rural areas alike. And it could be very easy for me to stand up and support the kill motion simply because I do believe in transbasin diversion. I guess I am on the opposite side on that issue of Senator Dworak and yet we are on the same side of this issue with this bill. Chances are pretty good he is going to oppose some of the amendments that I am going to try to offer to this bill, however.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have one minute.