

April 16, 1981

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SENATOR VICKERS: But I think it is important again that this, the legislative body, set down the criteria, and not the courts. It is unfortunate that it came up as soon as it did, but the Supreme Court is the one that brought it up by overruling the Osterman decision, so, therefore, we cannot wait for the...in my opinion, we cannot wait for the Natural Resource Commission's report, as Senator Kremer suggests. I think we need to act, and act as soon as possible.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Sieck.

SENATOR SIECK: Members of the body, this is a very difficult position to take, but I am going to support the kill motion because I don't feel that we are ready...I just don't feel we are ready. After I read this bill, I can see a lot of question marks, a lot of question marks. And I do feel the Constitution at the present time does tell us the beneficial uses of water, and I feel that the streams of the original origin do have some protection. And I would like to really take a longer look at this subject. And in my particular area we are in need of water, and we are not asking water, that is...belongs to the water of the original origin, but water that is surplus, when we have extreme storms of this type, then we would like to have that water and use it properly. But I don't think we are ready for it. I don't think we of the area that needs the water are ready for this. I don't think we are ready for transbasin diversion. We haven't made enough plans. I even doubt whether the Little Blue as much as they have done are really ready for transbasin diversion. And I really feel that the Department of Water Resources has the tools, and we might cloud and muddy the waters some more. So I am going to support the kill motion.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Wiitala. Senator Wiitala, do you wish to speak on the issue?

SENATOR WIITALA: Mr. Chairman, I would call for the question.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? I see five hands. Shall debate cease is the issue. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. The issue is to cease debate. Record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 6 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Debate is ceased. The Chair recognizes Senator Kremer to close. Just a moment, Senator Goodrich, did you give way to Senator Kremer on the close?