

April 16, 1981

LB 252

SENATOR H. PETERSON: Mr. Chairman, my only concern is I don't object to the Vickers amendment but I think it ought to be an addition and that the second item as it is stated ought to be left in. I think we need to consider both. We need to consider the adverse effects and the good effects, whoever is making the decision. And for that reason I would be opposed to striking that language.

SENATOR NICHOL: You are talking about the first part of the question?

SENATOR H. PETERSON: Right.

SENATOR NICHOL: Okay. Senator Remmers, did you wish to speak to this?

SENATOR REMMERS: Mr. President and members of the body, just a few comments. I probably should be wearing my green freshman beanie, not having had much experience with this water business and also from an area where transbasin diversion and that type of thing is not a very great problem. I am not worried very much about that in Nemaha County. But I do feel that Senator Beutler has made a good start on the problems before us. I don't think we can sit back and not do anything, and it seems to me that this has been sort of the...would be the result of this if we didn't act on this thing. And I have some questions about the amendments because I think that any decision we make is bound to lean one way or the other just a little. I don't think that we can devise a solution that is absolutely neutral. And I kind of feel that when it's a matter of taking from one and giving to the other, that if there is going to be anything leaning any direction at all, it should lean in the direction of those that have the water now and that are counting on it and have been counting on it. So I would urge you be very careful about amending Senator Beutler's bill to the extent that it would not be effective.

SENATOR NICHOL: I believe that everybody has spoken to the first portion of the question that wishes to. Senator Vickers, did you wish to close on the first portion of the question?

SENATOR VICKERS: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman and members, the first portion or the division of this question of this amendment in order to be clear in everybody's minds what we are talking about, is to strike lines 9 and 10 on page 6, subsection 2, where it says "any adverse impacts of the proposed interbasin transfer and use", and insert in there this language: "The beneficial uses to be