

April 28, 1981

LB 132

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is to return the bill to Select File at Senator Beutler's request. All those in favor of....okay, do you want to explain your amendment first?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, this amendment is purely technical in nature. LB 132 references throughout the bill with regard to the approval of applications and the different approvals necessary for agencies that are dealing with public power. It refers to the Department of Water Resources as being the agency which gives that approval. But that approval is technically given by the Nebraska Power Review Board which prior to last year was connected and a part of the Department of Water Resources, but now it is a completely separate agency and the references in the bill should be to the Nebraska Power Review Board. So all the amendment does is change those references. And in addition there are some additional references to the Department of Water Resources that are incorrect in Chapter 70, which now should be the Nebraska Power Review Board since they were separated last year. So it also makes the technical corrections to the other sections of section 70 dealing with Nebraska public power districts. That is the sum and substance of the amendment, not much but it really is necessary to make it technically correct. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. Chairman and members, I oppose this amendment and the other one that Senator Beutler has. I believe there is another one on the Clerk's desk, another amendment. On this basis, as Senator Beutler said when we were discussing LB 35, the jury is in, the various public power interests have been working on this particular issue for at least four years going on five, and finally they have reached an agreement to the extent at least that they are willing to go along with it. Now I know that Senator Beutler's amendment is technical in nature. However, we have LB 181 that is on General File and we can address these issues to that bill that will take care of the problem here. I am opposing the amendment to this point, because of the long and the length of time that has been spent by the public power people, the rurals, NPPD, through the intensive work and the dedicated work of the Nebraska Power Association and others, and I think now to delay this bill when it is all ready to go is improper, it is wrong. I think we should let LB 132 go and use LB 181 to take care of any amendments that are necessary to improve the bill. So, Senator Beutler, I object on that principal. After all