

they have it the way they want it and that's the way it is going to be. And it is by and large a good bill. But the point I want to discuss is the point of the right of the people to vote on different kinds of projects, water projects, sewer projects, solid waste disposal projects, power projects. As you know, 132 allows the setting up of separate agency, a separate public agency, and that agency can do whatever the participating directors and the directors come from the different municipalities, say they can do. And they do it without a vote and they issue bonds without a vote. And they can issue it not just for power, although that is the primary purpose, but they can do it for sewer. They can do it for water and they do it for solid waste disposal. And the powers in another section of the bill are quite broad. There may be a number of other things that they can do. No vote as far as that agency is concerned. We are creating a new entity. Now the law in the State of Nebraska with regard to when votes are required on projects does not to the best of my knowledge express any consistent philosophy. In some cases we require votes in order to issue bonds, or require votes in order to exercise the power of eminent domain, or to start the construction of various types of utility projects. In other instances we do not require a vote. What my amendment does is retains...retains the current law with regard to public votes for all except power projects. For power projects it says, they will no longer have to vote if they participate in this agency, basically because NPPD doesn't have any vote. So we are going to make all power entities, all entities constructing power projects allow them to have the same requirement. But with regard to sewer and solid waste disposal and water works projects, what my amendment says is this, if those particular projects would have required a vote by the particular municipality if they had done it themselves, then so too it will require a vote for them to participate in an agency constructing one of those kinds of projects. So that the final result of the amendment is that the law in the state with regard to allowing the public to retain the right to vote is not changed except on power projects where we are taking away the right to vote in some instances. As best I can figure out from the staff research that has been done recently on that, the effect of the bill right now would be to take away the peoples' right to vote in 15 or 16 different instances. Now if I came in to you directly with a bill to take away the peoples' right to vote in all those instances, it probably wouldn't get 2 votes in the committee, much less ever get out on the floor of the Legislature. But the effect of creating this agency, the way the bill is right now, is that you are saying that they can do acting together what the different individual members could not do