

May 4, 1981

LB 561

fund and adjust it up 1 million dollars. I did some careful checking. We do not need quite that much and I am going to be realistic. I am moving to amend the amendment and adjust it by 4 million dollars. I would like to have 5 million. I sometimes question whether the money is there. I know that we can stand the 4 million. It will give us considerable more money that we are going to have to have in the way of developing the impoundment of some of the water in our state if we are going to meet the challenge of the future beginning right now. So I move that we adopt the amendment to my amendment to LB 561 and adjust it from 5 million to 4 million.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the discussion on the Kremer amendment to the Kremer amendment. Senator Schmit, do you wish to discuss Senator Kremer's amendment?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I support the amendment to the Kremer amendment. I think the original amendment was a more realistic one, however, I will subscribe to Senator Kremer's wishes and go along with the present amendment. I believe his recognition of the fact that we do need those funds. I think it is unfortunate that we have not made the commitment that we should have made. I think it is entirely unrealistic to believe that we will ever do anything substantial in the area of water development unless we make a more realistic commitment and recognize that the amount of money which we are allocating is not a large amount but it is an improvement over what was in the budget and I would ask that you support it.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Sieck, do you want to speak to the Kremer amendment?

SENATOR SIECK: Yes, Mr. President, members of the body, I do support the Kremer amendment. In view of the fact that in the Upper Blue area our groundwater has dropped one foot this year it shows the need that we do need to develop some water projects. We are in the process of developing School Creek and that is in the present appropriations from the State Commission of \$393,000 and this is part of the total program. I feel this is necessary and we've got to begin building more of these structures and the long view plan of the Upper Blue, we have several of these coming in. We need to establish a fund to do this job. If we are going to stop the depleting of our groundwater we've got to start thinking of putting some of these water projects on our land. So I heartily endorse this water development fund.