

May 6, 1981

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in this case and not the case in say some other bills? Well, as you should know, we did study water this last interim. We spent a great deal of time going across the state, but never did the idea of a water management area come before the committee until this bill was introduced this session. That is to say we studied all kinds of issues on water but never did we study the one embodied in this bill until the bill was introduced, and so I think it is quite evident in the case of other water legislation, we took an interim period to look at the issue, we spent the time on the bill and we came back with some legislation that we felt was solid and we have seen some move through the process. But this is a new concept, one which we haven't had a chance to study and debate and analyze, so to hold this bill for interim study is not an unreasonable thing to do, and I think with the results of the interim study you will see amendments to the bill in committee and you will see the bill come out rather early in the session next year, and there is an excellent chance it will pass in some form next session. Now what is the rush really? What is the reason the bill has to be coming out this session at this point? We have 15 days left. We have so many bills we still have to process that are already off of General File. We have so many demands on our time and yet we want to take a bill out that hasn't really been fully worked out yet. It doesn't make any sense when we are ready to take the time in committee to study this issue over the interim and come up with the amendments and the conclusions that we need to really do a good job next session. So I think quite logically there is no sense at this point to lift the bill out of committee with the time constraints, with the committee's commitment to do something about the bill, and the fact that we are going to work on the problem over the interim period. I strongly oppose the motion to lift this bill out of committee. I think you ought to as well, and I think that all of you that have committees that have had this sort of a problem where you haven't been able to resolve an issue realize the fact that that is a committee responsibility, that's not a responsibility to make legislation on the floor. When you do that, you make mistakes, and I think that we don't want to see that happen any more this session. I want to give the rest of my time to Senator Beutler.

PRESIDENT: Before we go on to the next speaker, the Chair would like to introduce two more visitors from Papillion, guests of Senator Beyer, Bob Elks and Andy Elks, his son. Will Bob and Andy stand and be recognized? Welcome to the Legislature to the Elks. The