

May 8, 1981

LB 252

it places obstacles in the way of us using that water. Without this bill it will be easier to use that water. Why should we support a bill that would make it harder and harder and harder for the people of Nebraska to be beneficial of that water that runs to the sea and we receive no use of it. So I feel, and I have not discussed or debated this, that it behooves us not to make this a jurisdictional fight, the North versus the South, or this basin versus that basin, or what have you. We should look at the overall fact of the water that we are losing and we should strive and work together to save that water for the citizens of the State of Nebraska, and this bill will not help do that, and, therefore, I ask you to vote no on LB 252.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Vickers, you want to make one comment. The floor is yours for a comment.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. Chairman, thank you. Mr. President and members, it was suggested by Senator Dworak a little bit ago that we were voting...that I suggested that people were voting by districts and he made the suggestion that my side was voting more from districts than his was. I want to point out the map that I distributed to you with the red and the blue. If you will check my district, the five counties in my district, you will find I have a lot more blue than I do red. I have got very little red. As a matter of fact, other than Senator Barrett, I have got more of an increase in the aquifer in my area I think than any other district in the State of Nebraska. So I guess I am coming from the position, I just want to clarify that I am not coming from a position of an area that is extremely water short. I am coming from a position that I know what surface water can do. I know the benefits to be derived. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kahle, then Senator Cullan, and then Senator Peterson, Howard Peterson. Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. Speaker and members, I have sat here for days now listening to the debate on water legislation and on diversion and many others. I guess outside of Senator Kremer there is no one in this body that has handled more water, watered more acres and had their hands dirty and wore out more shovels than I have. I have been irrigating for forty-seven years to be exact and what I would like to draw your attention to this morning, and, of course, I have people in my district on both sides of this issue, and have ever since I have been in the Legislature, and my philosophy has not changed over that time. And those

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