

May 27, 1981

LB 544

you stand and be recognized. Welcome to the Nebraska Legislature, Rolf. Now, Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Marsh, what were you going to say to me?

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Nichol, I was saying that I have been a supporter of LB 544 and in its present form I expect to continue my support. If the amendment is adopted to LB 544 I no longer can support it. In fact, I will actively oppose it.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Haberman, what were you going to say to me?

SENATOR HABERMAN: I was going to say to you, Senator Nichol, I could support 544 as it is but I will not and cannot support it with this amendment.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Kremer, were you going to say something? The point is, Mr. Chairman, I really do feel that this size of amendment now, and it is undoubtedly more than a slight amendment such as the bill in itself is. I think the tail is starting to wag the dog and I would still request Senator Cullan to withdraw his amendment.

PRESIDENT: All right, Senator Vickers. We are just about to that point, Senator Nichol, where he can make that decision. Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, I think we are having a repeat of last Friday's performance somewhat when major amendments are offered to rather insignificant bills. There were several comments made last Friday as to the bad effects of doing this sort of thing. First of all, for the record I want it clearly understood that I am opposed to the coal slurry pipeline. I have always been and I always will be and I sympathize with Senator Cullan and Senator Wesely in their offering of this amendment but at the same time I have to also have a little bit of respect for the body and the way that we operate. And even though I have a lot of sympathy for what they are attempting to do I also have a lot of respect for the integrity of this body and the way that we operate under our rules. I think we are making a mockery somewhat of those rules by attempting to insert such major pieces of legislation in this fashion. I would also point out as Senator Warner pointed out, that there are some very difficult criteria to be met by the state engineer. I would certainly hate to be the state engineer. Senator Wesely indicated that it would be easy to get additional help in this area.