

prepare the necessary amendments to correct any constitutional problems with this bill and particularly to allow urban people to participate in the process because water is just as important to the person who steps to the kitchen to fix breakfast as it is to the farmer who starts the center pivot sprinkler system, and if this system is going to work at all there has to be a cooperative effort between those who live in town and those who live on the farms, and I think it is unrealistic to assume that only those of us who live on the farms have an interest in this. But I support the general philosophy of LB 401 because I think that the people of the State of Nebraska and particularly those on the farms recognize the need for control areas and for controls on the withdrawal of water much beyond those of us in this Legislature and much beyond those who work in the natural resource districts and in state agencies. The people attitude wise are years ahead of us now I think in their approach to water. They want us to...the attitudes have changed so much in the last few years it is amazing. Four or five years ago when I would go to a townhall meeting in the 49th Legislative District, people would tell me that they are concerned about the state being too involved in water issues. But today they are telling us that we had better do something about development which is adverse because they want to ensure that there is water today and there is water tomorrow, and I think that we ought to give people a mechanism to establish a control area when government fails to establish those regulations which people will want and which people need. So I like the philosophy of LB 401. I think Senator Lamb and the others who have participated in this process have done a good job, but I cannot support the bill until such a time as they correct what I believe is a basic philosophical mistake and probably a constitutional problem as far as those who can participate in the process is concerned. At this point in time I would vote against the bill. I would urge you to do likewise until these amendments are presented to us.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Beutler. Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Am I closing? Is this the close, Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER MARVEL: No, you are not closing yet.

SENATOR LAMB: I will wait and close, please.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay. Senator Vickers. Okay, Senator Koch. The motion is the advancement of the bill.