

PRESIDENT: Fine. The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this is far and away the most important of the water bills that we'll have this year. In fact we'll only have three important water bills and we voted down on initial reading two of them already, but this one encompasses not just portions of the system but the system in total and has effects and implications that are the very broadest. The concept involves many different parts. Many of the parts are themselves important and for that reason and because I think that the different sections are worthy of discussion and because we have not had an opportunity, the bill having been drawn from committee without committee amendments to clean up technical problems, we need to look at a whole number of these sections and for that reason I ask for a division of the question as outlined by the Clerk.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion, Senator Beutler? Senator Kremer, then. Do you want to discuss the matter of division which is basically section by section, Senator Kremer?

SENATOR KREMER: Senator Beutler, I'd like to ask Senator Beutler...

PRESIDENT: Senator Beutler, would you respond.

SENATOR KREMER: Senator Beutler, I can agree with some of the things that you have said that we are dealing with this issue that I tried to outline as an important issue, how we manage our water in the State of Nebraska. I can't quite see why you want to go as far as you are going in making a bill out of each section. We will be here for the rest of this week, will we not, if you divide the question all the way and you're not willing to adopt the amendments we have before us and then address section by section in the way of amendment as you have the ability to amend any section you like even after we have adopted them, do you not?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Kremer, I think part of the problem has to do with the fact that the bill was jerked from committee. All the committee amendments were stripped off of it and I don't know how many of the committee members subsequent to that time had an opportunity to sit down with the drafters of the bill whoever they were. But I, for one, was not invited by the lobbyists to come out and sit down and work out technical problems with the bill and so I think what we are dealing with here are not only the substantive and philosophic amendments but also technical