

of members of this Legislature. Senator Hoagland says it is the result of lobbyists. I take issue with him on that. Senator Kremer and I and other members of this body spent hundreds and hundreds of hours on this bill as did the Public Works Committee and the bill represents the best thinking we could put together. As I said earlier, we are never going to agree entirely but I think we have come a long, long way, and as Senator Beutler has said, the bill as it is today is more acceptable than it has been at any time in the past. Senator Kremer and I had some very deep differences of opinion as we progressed and we compromised. I went about 85% of the way and he went about 10% and this morning we hammered out the other 5.

SENATOR CLARK: You have got about thirty seconds.

SENATOR SCHMIT: So that is where we are at this morning, and if you compromise like that, Senator Hoagland, you can almost always win.

SENATOR CLARK: I would like to introduce some people right at the present time, guests of Senator Nichol, Kenneth Dill and Harold Tripple of Scottsbluff. Also at the same time, they are sitting together over there, is Dale Caskey of Bassett, Nebraska, guest of Senator Lamb. Would you step out and be recognized please. Welcome to the Unicameral. Senator Hoagland, on the advancement of the bill. I hope we don't rehash the whole bill again.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: I will be very brief, Mr. President. I would just encourage all the members that are sitting here to take a look at the letters that have been distributed to you, one from the Twin Platte Natural Resource District and the other from the Upper Republican Natural Resource District. Those are both NRDs that are very active and water short areas, both of them are inalterably opposed to this bill for a whole variety of reasons set out in those letters. Now I would encourage you to read those over. I think this amendment that was adopted it clearly improves the bill but it still leaves a great deal to be desired, not just from a litigation point of view but from a lot of other points of view as well, and I think if people are truly concerned about getting down to the local Natural Resource Districts the authorities they need to effectively deal with water problems, then you are going to be truly concerned about the impact of LB 375 because listen to the Natural Resource Districts themselves who are going to have that responsibility including the Upper Republican Natural Resource District in Senator Haberman's and Senator Vickers' area which has had a control area for a couple of years now,