

February 24, 1982

LB 375

that, they may want to get their votes up on the board.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, go ahead, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Read the record vote as found on pages 830 and 831 of the Legislative Journal.) 13 ayes, 26 nays, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion lost.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment I have is from Senator Hoagland and it too is found on page 636 of the Legislative Journal.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Hoagland.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I would ask you to refer to page 4 of the comments and recommendations of the Natural Resource Commission which I passed out before and read the middle paragraph on page 4. And I think if you read that, why you will understand as clearly as anything I could say what the purpose of this amendment is. Now Senator Vickers also about half an hour ago distributed a very thoughtful memorandum and I will let him discuss that and argue that about the unfortunate effect of LB 375 where it limits the Natural Resource Districts to basing allocation systems solely on irrigated acres. And after you have had a chance to read that middle paragraph on page 4 of the NRC's recommendations, I would encourage you to read Senator Vickers memorandum because it is a very thoughtful memorandum indeed which I think points out the problems with restricting the Natural Resource Districts to one method of allocating which LB 375 does. Now let me review for the body just a moment what allocating means. Once a management area or a control area is set up, why the principal means that Natural Resource Districts will use presumably, at least the principal means they have relied on in the past in order to regulate the use of groundwater to preserve the future of our agricultural economy in the State of Nebraska, is to allocate the use of water among irrigators which is to say that in the next five-year period you can only use 75 acre inches a year. Allocating means limiting the amount of water you can put on on an acre inch basis, limiting the amount of water you can use on an acre inch basis. Now they may say that in one year you can use 22 acre inches a year and as the aquifer gets run down, five or ten years later they may move down to 18 acre inches a year, eventually 15 acre inches a year, to try and spread the loss out among all the people that have center pivot