

March 11, 1982

LB 577

SENATOR H. PETERSON: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I would rise too to oppose the Wesely kill motion for a number of reasons. Number one, it seems to me that we ought to congratulate Senator Koch for bringing this legislation to us to make it possible for us to do some things in this state that we haven't done to date and things that we will need to do. If I remember correctly, the Natural Resources Commission is to report to this Legislature next year their study of where dams ought to be constructed in this state, and we certainly need to have, when we get that report we need to have the process and the means by which we can start some of those structures. I just can't understand a Senator who serves on the Public Works Committee, who was aware of this study being made not understanding the importance of this legislation. I am not sure he ought to be serving on that committee. I would just say that we need to really move ahead and I would support Senator Koch one hundred percent in what he is trying to get done.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. Chairman and members, I spoke to this issue when it was before us on General File. I again rise to oppose the motion to indefinitely postpone for the various reasons I gave the other day. I would like to remind this group that the federal policy today is that if you want anything done within your states, the responsibility is going to be primarily with you, with the state. And without going to bonding certain projects, I do not see how we can build any so-called in between or major projects that Nebraska is going to have to have. I think Senator Koch is proposing here a way that we can go to the people and if they get a chance to look at what is necessary because of the discussion that will take place revolving around this decision that has to be made at the people's level and discussion takes place in the various communities, I think people will begin to understand that we have a real responsibility to do what we can by ourselves. I repeat, if we are willing to put up some front end money, I still believe there is going to be some federal funds available to help along because all states are going to have to get to work, especially in the states west of the Mississippi River. I think we are making a mistake if we kill this bill. It is another approach to doing what we are going to have to do to provide for Nebraska that which has to be done if we expect to beat the competition that we are going to face in the future. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I offered this

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