

March 18, 1982

LB 726

SENATOR VICKERS: Thank you, Mr. President. It allows the Natural Resources Districts to use different mechanisms for regulations. The mechanisms in the Water Management Act under the control area right now is very broad. It allows the people to do basically...the Natural Resources Districts whatever they choose to do within reason, and on the other hand the management area concept gave them some narrow guidelines that they had to follow. Those are the two major differences. The total amount of development could be controlled in a management area but it can be controlled only in total not in parcels. The difference is that in a control area they could investigate controls to control development so that it would take place in an orderly fashion. One more point needs to be made. Some people are indicating that with the passage of 726 there would be no more development whatsoever in the Sandhills and I don't believe that is true at all. I don't believe the local people want that to be true. I would simply point out that the philosophy that I have always espoused is that I don't believe we can give the local people any authorities....

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR VICKERS: ...that would cause them to overregulate themselves. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members, I rise to oppose the bill. I know the first question that is going to be asked if you have made up your mind is why then did you vote to bring it out of committee? Well, my explanation for that is that this committee and some of us before we worked on the committee did go into the Sandhills and listen to the ranchers and the farmers, people living in that area, about what complaints they may have had, what is happening in development and so on. We have done that about three or four different times and I will have to agree that everyone never wants to be provided any legislation that would allow this thing to be aired in the Legislature itself. I compare that and I have always liked to hunt and never once have I ever shot a pheasant or a duck sitting down. I like to give them a chance and generally they got away. And I feel the same way about this. Let's give them a chance to air the thing. However, I oppose it for the following reasons. First of all, we have passed major legislation in the last several years and it took two years of work,