

April 1, 1982

LB 761

and Gas Conservation Commission to plug the abandoned test well. I don't think there is any question from the Commission in that regard. To do this the Commission will need a special appropriation. The Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission estimates their cost to be about \$4000, therefore we need \$4000 added to the budget to provide the necessary funds to cap this well. I think it is just the routine thing the Commission has been doing in this type of a situation. I urge you to approve it.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Warner, did you wish to speak to this amendment?

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, this is the second time that I can recall where we had this kind of an incident. There was one other time some years ago where there was one of these wells that was an old test hole that could contaminate the groundwater. In this case I guess it is flowing up to the surface, but in any event one other time we appropriated general fund money. As Senator Remmers had indicated he had mentioned it to me and I did...it slipped my mind so the committee had not considered it. The agency did not ask us for it either, but again in terms of time that is why they did not. So I think there is precedent for doing it and it should be done, and I would as far as I am personally concerned would support the \$4000 for this because of the damage that could occur or would occur if it is not.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Remmers, did you wish to close? The question is the Remmers' amendment. All those in favor signify by voting aye, opposed nay.

CLERK: Senator Nichol voting yes.

SENATOR NICHOL: Please vote. Please vote so we can move along. Please vote. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator Remmers' amendment.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Remmers' amendment is adopted. Mr. Clerk, do you have another one?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Fowler would now move to amend the bill.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: I would ask unanimous consent to withdraw that amendment.