

principles involved in this issue. Senator Wesely is correct that there is some concerns with the Nucor situation. I share some of those concerns. But I would just want to point out to you that certainly matter of public notice has always been a concern of mine. I do not in any way intend to try to abdicate that area of responsibility. On the other hand I want to point out also that public power is a very vital part of Nebraska. I have from time to time taken it upon myself to look into some of those operations and have encouraged some modernization of the public power industry usually, I might add, without much help from this body. And I would suggest that we proceed as the overall board of directors of public power that we'll have an opportunity to address some of those issues. As responsible individuals we have a major responsibility to the rate payers of this state to do that which is in our power to hold down the cost of electric energy. To the extent that we can do so we certainly ought to take action. I hope that you will advance the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, colleagues, I plan to support LB 628. But I would like to echo Senator Wesely's remarks in regards to public notice in general by public bodies. I think a lot of times, not just public power districts, but cities, counties and other political subdivisions view these laws as something to try to be avoided rather than an opportunity to provide public input into important decisions. I think a lot of times they get themselves into more trouble by not providing adequate notice to the public. It's my hope that with this piece of legislation there will be more notice to individuals in that particular portion of the state that NPPD does provide power to. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Schellpeper, followed by Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. I also rise to echo what Senator Wesely said. The Nucor Steel is in my district. And I would hope that things can be worked out, and Jennie Robak has assured me that they will be on Select File. So, with that comment, I will just vote for the passage of the bill at this time.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Johnson.