

April 6, 1989

LB 710

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Scofield, followed by Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: I would simply rise to indicate my support for Senator Dierks' amendment to my amendment and indicate that I agree that we need the information now, particularly since the committee may well want to deal yet with 383, 384, 385 yet next year, and I think that would better enable us to weigh our policy choices and how far we might have to go. And I think it's also reasonable, given the additional resources that we're putting into this to expect that and to be and to be done well by the deadline that Senator Dierks has set.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Schmit, on the amendment to the amendment. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members, is the amendment to the amendment, Senator Dierks, change of date? Is that it? Yes, I rise in support of that. And I just want to say this, I had an amendment which would have shortened the time up even to September 1. I really don't think that there is that there is that much case law to study on this. I've talked to some of the attorneys who have been involved in it. First of all, if you will review the management study very carefully, and I'm sure you will, you will learn that the proposal did study both sides of the issue so that there isn't...that it was not ignored totally, in fact it was not ignored. Secondly, I think it is important that we recognize that there ought to...a study ought to be done as soon as possible because, if it's going to have any impact, the sooner we get it done the better. And, third, I want to just say again that I guess I'm a little concerned about implications that the original study was not done well, I think it was. I would just hope that we have to understand that talking about issues doesn't necessarily resolve anything, and studying them doesn't resolve anything. I've almost made a decision, ladies and gentlemen, that, if we are going to only talk and talk and talk about this issue, we don't even need a division of water resources. We seem to create a lot of controversy every time anyone talks about any kind of water development, any kind of storage projects, any kind of recharge. We are concerned about those issues. But any time anyone talks about anything substantive that would provide for some recharge of the aquifer, and Nebraska is one of the few states that does have an aquifer that will accept recharge, everyone seems to get paranoid about it. I'm at the point where, if all we're going