

bill. They need to look at a statewide plan and I would support Natural Resources Commission developing and being in a position where they can designate and where they have a plan specific that would cut across the county lines. If you look at the bill, you'll see that in the opening paragraph there is a discussion of the the best place to plan for taking care of our waterways is at the county level and I absolutely disagree with that. If, in fact, we're talking about a pond that is totally encompassed by that county, that may be true, but if we're talking about a free-flowing water resource that moves through multiple counties, at that point we need a statewide plan. We don't need each individual county out there trying to develop some kind of a system by which it will be separate and different from any other county on down the stream or up the stream or wherever we may be. I think that the rivers and the streams belong to Nebraska in total, and if we had the Natural Resources Commission working this issue from top to bottom, that would be one thing, but to simply have them say, yes, this is a waterway that deserves to be protected, now you counties have the authority to do it in any way you feel, I think is just basically bad policy. But the issue is important. It is important to a lot of people around the state and I think that the position I'm taking in terms of the bracket motion is such that if we're going to have a statewide plan, let's develop a statewide plan and the bracket motion is identified for January of next year for the purpose of studying this issue. I read through the transcripts in Washington and Congressman Barrett and his predecessor, Congressman Smith, constantly railed away on the federal designation issue on the fact that it ought to be studied. There has not been enough study and both those two persons in their respective capacities just continually kept pointing to the fact there needs to be more study, there needs to be more study, this is an issue that needs to be studied more at the federal level, and I think without question, as I read that, I'm also convinced that Senator Lamb's 511 also needs more study and develop and crafted in such a way that it is something that is state policy that we can be proud of and is workable rather than, and I will say it again, a piecemeal process of each county developing a separate technique by which they are going to try to propose a protected stream or scenic river or whatever the designation may be. And so the bracket motion is directed towards putting this thing off for now, not adopting such a plan that won't, I don't think, probably accomplish anything other than what I think it was originally intended for, and even then, I don't think there is any potential that will