

LR 27 was not a realistic approach to Nebraska's water policy or its statement of fact that we had a comprehensive plan, I don't believe, was realistic or totally open and honest to what exactly exists. But now we are addressing a legislative framework recognizing our current laws in place as being that legislative framework, as, indeed, they are for all other policies and topics within the State of Nebraska and, therefore, I think when we pass this amendment, we will have a workable resolution that fits the type of definition that a legislative resolution ought to have in that it does not try and state something that is not true, but simply recognizes what is in existence, and I would recommend its adoption.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Horgan. Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Very briefly, I think that the spirit of cooperation that has come through during this consideration of this resolution from the hearings that we held in committee to the evolution of bringing it to the floor, offering the amendments that we have shows a spirit of compromise that we dearly need to see between the parties in litigation. What we can accomplish here surely can be accomplished, though much more detail needs to be looked at, by the negotiators, and I think we are going to send a message in that respect also, that negotiations work, that it requires some cooperation from both parties, and that a resolution can be reached such as this one. And, certainly would support this amendment to the amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Elmer. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. I think Senator Elmer is correct in indicating the desire for some cooperation. When this resolution first was proposed, I was quite harsh in my description of it, but the amendments that are offered by Senator Hartnett and also by Senator Elmer do change the complexion quite a bit. Senator Johnson talked about the desire to see more negotiation on this issue. I, too, would stand and express that desire, that we have had too much litigation, not enough negotiation. It is too bad Senator Landis isn't in charge of some of this and could help work out these differences, because it'd save us literally millions of dollars at this point to have discussed this matter a little more cooperatively. So in that spirit of cooperation, if the Hartnett amendment is adopted and the Elmer amendment is