

last year in which people were asked who should control on these scenic rivers. I guess specifically this was a Niobrara question, but the question was, who do you think should be responsible the federal government, the State of Nebraska, the local residents? And the results of that poll were that the federal government, 13 percent of our people thought the federal government should control; 53 percent thought the state government control, should control; and only 25 percent said that the local government should control. So I think that poll is indicative of the feeling that the state is probably the correct level of control for this type of enterprise and I think that that makes sense. I mean I think it comports to the concept that I hope we all have, that there are certain valuable things in this state that should be preserved for posterity, should be preserved for all the people of the state for the indefinite future, things like Chimney Rock, things like Toadstool Park, things like some of the scenic areas along the Missouri including the Niobrara and maybe two or three other spots and I guess that's why we want to see a good bill. But to put it back in local control in my opinion is not being honest about what you really want because I don't think you really want to see scenic river designations happen if you put it back in local control because local people will be paralyzed on an issue like this because of the vehement minority that will always exist. So when you have a bill like this, whoever is advocating this, to me, it's like the fox...it's like advocating that the fox should design the hen house. This is not a real effort, this is not a real scenic river bill. But Senator Conway is making a valiant effort here and I hope that you all can support him. I thought that Senator Schimek's comment was also interesting in that it indicated a little bit that we were putting the horse before the cart I thought. Really, when most states start out in this kind of enterprise the first thing they do is a general inventory of all the likely scenic river designations throughout the state and then from that focus they start to discuss in more detail one or another or whether the ones that have been identified are appropriate and they go from there and maybe they then identify one site and do what Senator Morrissey is suggesting should be done and what, in fact, should be done, but maybe we can add some of those details later.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: That's one of the problems with starting in the middle of something, in the middle of a session. But in any