

men can continue to spend money, which they don't have on a project which no one is fighting over and which is going to be resolved. But it's not going to be resolved very soon. At 500 grand a year for the special master, yeah, divide it up. You know why that is? That way no one really cares about putting an end to it. Feds don't care, that's why they got a 3 trillion dollar deficit. Wyoming doesn't care because they got...they just put it on our coal bill. And we don't care because we're going to be macho and we're going to fight. I'll challenge anyone on this floor to have a better record in defense of Nebraska's water than I do. I've fought for it, I've bled over it, I've agonized over it, I've lost votes, I've lost friends, and 90 percent of the time the people who are today saying, shove all the money out there for the lawyers, wouldn't put a dollar into a dam if they knew someone else was going to put 10 bucks in to match it. They wouldn't do it. I heard Senator Roger Wehrbein talk about it. By the time the Platte gets to where you're at, Wehrbein, everybody has had their dipper in it for a while. I can't understand normally conservative, reasonable people continuing to throw good money after bad just because the precedent is there,...

SENATOR WARNER: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...and the precedent is there. I can guarantee you when Senator Wickersham comes up here, Senator Moore says we've got to cut the appropriations down for Wickersham's territory so they're more realistic. When Mahoney ran Game and Parks, he'd take 300 convicts out there and have them clean the place up for board and room, and not very good at that. But today we're going to spend a million two or three, but where is the money going to come from? Here is one place it can come from, and it benefits the people in the very part of the State of Nebraska who don't want you waste it on them now in the first place. I still think the amendment ought to be adopted.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Mr. Speaker, members, I don't know what to say. Since I've been here, I thought that this was a pretty important issue to Nebraska, to get our water rights straightened out, at least have an understanding that we were going to continue to get the water that we had by agreement since 1945, and some back as far as 1904. And I guess I would give you a minute or two, Senator Schmit, to say what would you