

foresee that would happen, if we would take this...go your route, drop the 300,000? What would be the scenario, if Nebraska gives up this easily and says, all right, Wyoming, you can have your water, we're not so interested in filling it for McConaughy, we're not so interested in keeping it for the lakes, and we'll just let the chips fall where they may? Where will that leave us, in your opinion?

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Schmit, will you yield?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Senator, it will leave it in the same position we have been year, after year, after year. Whether it's a water fight, whether it's a physical war, a natural disaster, or whatever it is, we spend the money and you come back and you put it on the deficit appropriations bill. I have never yet seen anyone fail to legitimately defend the interests of Nebraska because the money hadn't been appropriated. Didn't used to do it that way, it's probably illegal, but the Attorney General of the State of Nebraska has done it consistently in the past, and this Legislature appropriates the money. Now once you put the money in that till, Senator Wehrbein, I am convinced that it will be spent, they will delay, they will equivocate. Now maybe, maybe those Wyoming folks out there will say, well, we finally bluffed them, now we're going to really ride roughshod. I don't think so. But, if they do, how sweet it would be to tell Senator Schmit you were dead wrong, we were all right, now we've got to come back and pay for your mistake. Only it's not going to cost any more and probably less if you go my route, than if you go the route that has been laid out here. I'm using your time, I'm sorry.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, thank you. I guess I'm not convinced that doing that will actually maintain Nebraska's rights over the years, and that's what some of this issue is about, is maintaining our position. And if we give up now, I think that we're throwing in far more than we really want to. I think we're taking a gamble and a risk that is not worth taking, and I still oppose Senator Schmit's amendment.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, ladies and gentlemen, before we find out where we're going, maybe we ought to know where we're at. Senator Scotty Moore, will you answer some questions, please.