

you're next.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members. Senator Beutler has explained, rather well I think, what the bill does not do. Individuals who have expressed their concern about what it does do, some concern has been expressed as to whether or not the river cities west of Omaha and Lincoln will be treated fairly in the event of a problem. I would assume that they would be treated fairly. Afterall, Omaha always treats us fairly outstate, and you really have nothing to be concerned about, Senators Cudaback and Nelson. But just for the record, would Senator Beutler tell me, number one, what the problem is that 306 would solve. And then, number two, how it will be resolved. And then, number three, at whose expense it will be resolved, if anyone's expense, or is it a win-win-win situation? And you can take all of my time, Senator Beutler.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Beutler, would you please respond to a question, please.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, sir.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Schmit, I think you're going to have to repeat your question for him, please.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Fine, I'll be glad to do that, Senator. Senator Beutler, appreciate the explanation you gave us as to what the bill does not do. Would you outline for the body what problem is to be solved by the passage of LB 306, how you propose to resolve it, and who will suffer in the resolution, if anyone, or will we all gain. And I have a hunch, Senator Beutler, that you feel a little bit as if you're fighting windmills. And sometimes, as we all know, a bill just comes up for the wrong stage of debate, and it's one of those situations where everyone feels that we have to vote against the bill to prove that we are independent, I guess. But it might be that you can help us understand it a little bit better in that manner. Identify the problem, the solution, and who wins or loses, if anyone.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, I thank you for the opportunity. I think maybe the best way to start out is to indicate to you, or to remind you that, for example, the cities of Lincoln, and the city of...the Cities of Lincoln and Omaha are currently investing in this particular time period, in the near coming