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what we need to do in this area, we need to examine the style and type of leader that we put in this position. I have enjoyed and appreciated the chance to serve on the committee. I come from a history of having been born and raised in a totally agricultural environment in Burt County, educated in agricultural economics and in law. And while I was in college I had a chance to help write a...do some research, write a paper on the possibility of multipurpose districts being used in the natural resources area in this state. That piqued my interest in natural resources and, of course, ultimately this state saw fit to adopt the Natural Resources District system which I think is above all other states in terms of the way we approach handling our natural resources. I respect that. I would work with that framework and I would only seek to improve the many accomplishments that Senator Beutler spoke of earlier and some that Senator Elmer alluded to. I run because I feel that the chairman of this committee at this particular junction must listen as well as act to all the people of Nebraska. We're going to be facing the conjunctive water use issue. We're in the middle of it. The Governor's Water Council has worked on it for a year and a half, has drafted and presented to the Governor a proposal. I am interested in working with that proposal. I would pledge that this committee would be a highly active involved committee in making decisions with regard to how we calendar, how we schedule that progress with that issue. We will continue to seek the input of all Nebraskans. You know, rural people think that because they're so close to the soil and the water that when we deal with that issue that we are...we are challenging perhaps their very economic existence, and so there is a natural defensiveness. If any of us felt that our likelihood...our livelihood, our economic viability was being challenged, we would be defensive as well. Our urban cousins should be no less interested in natural resources, the soil, the water, the environment, protecting, conserving, preserving, and yet many times our urban cousins are not as close to it, don't understand the great fear that comes with change in this area. I simply want to tell the body that I will do my utmost to work with all segments of water interests. Whether it be municipalities, whether it be Natural Resource Districts, whether it be any farm organization or any environmental organization, we will try to bring those interests together to the extent that we possibly can, but, most of all, we will do what's best for Nebraska. We will seek the best public policy that we can and that's all I can say. I appreciate just the availability of running for this position and I seek to continue