

oversight or overview over those amendments that he could present to the compact.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Senator Bohlke, have you been here for the discussion during the introduction and so on?

SENATOR BOHLKE: That's what I indicated, I had not so if you could...but as I said as I understand it, this would allow Mike Jess to do amendments to the compact.

SENATOR ELMER: No, the resolution would authorize Mike to propose amendments to the compact to Colorado and Kansas members of the commission, nothing more. Any compact language that would be changed would be presented to us in the form of a bill that would have the same language, both in Kansas and Colorado. The change to the compact in the form of that bill would have to be first passed by all three states and then sent to Washington for ratification by the Congress of the United States. This resolution was brought to me from the Department of Water Resources and cooperation with Senator Wickersham, Senator Beutler, Senator Bromm we amended the language and presented this as a resolution so that it could be presented the eighth of June. We didn't feel that it was at all controversial since it's only a suggestion to the compact to make the amendments and that any changes that might be recommended would have to be brought first to us as a Natural Resource Committee for a hearing and then passed by the full Legislature as a bill as it would have to be done by our counterparts in Kansas and Colorado.

SENATOR BOHLKE: So, Senator Elmer, would you agree when Mr. Jess would make those recommendations that that would certainly be an indication of the position of the State of Nebraska?

SENATOR ELMER: It would. The way the compact is currently written we have very little control on how we can possibly regulate water use in the Republican River basin so that we could know in advance how much water we were delivering to Kansas. Their allocation is approximately 40 percent of the virgin water supply in the Republican River basin, whatever that might be, and the methodology that has been used in the past determines after the fact how much water has actually been