

March 7, 1996

LB 1138A, 1138

brief opening on this. I'm going to read a paragraph of somewhat technical language so you'll have a little better indication of what we're doing, and that will complete it. The value Nebraska ETV Commission has estimated the cost of digital conversion to be approximately \$1.1 million. However, we can lease this excess capacity of the NEB*SAT transponder which would be created by moving to a compressed digital video to create a funding vehicle for the conversion to digital technology and the future purchase or lease of replacement communications resource for the current NEB*SAT transponder. And because the value of Nebraska's transponder is increasingly...is increasing because of severe shortage of C band transponders and available lease space, we feel that if we could lease this excess capacity we have, once again, we could use this money then to go to give us increased capacity with compressed digital video. That's the reason for the bill, that was the reason for the E clause, that's the reason that I would urge you to vote for this so NETV can move forward in this area and gain increasing value of this technology and have it paid for by some valuable asset that we have right now that others would willingly lease, and then we could move forward in this area. I'll entertain any questions if you don't get too deep.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wehrbein, you are safe, there are no lights on. Do you have a closing?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I think I've said all I can say. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The question before the body is, shall LB 1138 advance? All in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 31 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of 1138.

SPEAKER WITHEM: LB 1138 is advanced. LB 1138A.

CLERK: LB 1138A by Senator Wehrbein. (Read title.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: This simply, Mr. Speaker and members, this simply is the dollars involved in doing this. As I mentioned,