

add one more piece to your thought on this particular question of the world around us and how we relate to it and my assertion that we need this law to relate to that world. Pull out this handout, "Nebraska versus Wyoming". You know in the North Platte, and especially Senator Hillman's area and out there in western Nebraska, we need that water coming down the Platte. And we're in this big feud, that we weren't able to avoid again, with Wyoming that's costing us millions and millions. But you know, one of the things we alleged in that suit with Wyoming is you've got to count that ground water you're using in Wyoming, you've got to count that. You know what Wyoming said to us? Why do we have to count it? You don't even have a law about that in Nebraska. Are you kidding me, you don't have clean hands. You come in here and say count that ground water, to protect western Nebraska, and then you don't even have a law on conjunctive use, you get to be kidding! We're hypocrites. But the bad part of it is we're going to be asked to come to a trial here and talk about that. Look at the part I circled, "Nebraska, in original proceedings for additional relief under 1945 decree rationing North Platte" water, "would be allowed to proceed with claim that increased ground water pumping within Wyoming threatened substantial depletion of river's natural flow, notwithstanding Nebraska's failure to regulate ground water pumping within its own borders; Nebraska was downstream state and claimed that Wyoming's pumping hurt it, while Wyoming was upstream and had not made showing that Nebraska's pumping hurt anyone, and while Nebraska pumping might affect relief to which Nebraska was entitled, that...question" was "for trial." You see, it all comes back around again. If Wyoming says, well, we're not going to send the water down the river because you won't protect it to get to the people that are supposed to be using it, you can't protect it because you don't have the laws to protect it. You can't protect it from ground water pumping in Nebraska, we're not going to send it. And that's going to be a question at the trial. And you can see that, if we have no conjunctive use law, we're at some disadvantage there. I'm sure my annoyance with Kansas, in the end, is no less than Senator Brashear's. But this bill is about a lot more than Kansas, and it matters whether or not Kansas sues.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members of the body, I rise to talk about an actual court case, not a potential one. The State