

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

April 5, 2000

LB 1234

in the zoning powers which is built into the bill, the Cattlemen and the Farm Bureau are all okay with trying out this structure and seeing if we can't attract the federal government to a management plan that will essentially empower this new Niobrara Council to do the job. And I passed out to you a letter from the Park Service, saying that they will in fact use this council and recommend this council to the court if we can get it in place. So I think we're all right on the Park Service, I think we're all right on the local service. There may be some refinements that will be forthcoming to this next year. But I think it's very important that since the Park Service has to go back to the court next year, that they know that we have put at least the essential structure in place that will and can work, in their opinion. This draft has gone through a series of negotiations, and I have to thank...give a lot of thanks to Senator Jones, who kind of worked the detail for the Natural Resources Committee. And we had the Cattlemen in and we had the Farm Bureau there and the Pork Producers there...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...and fed in a lot of information which resulted, in fact, in some additional protective powers built in, such as requiring a supermajority for taking any zoning kind of action in the bill, so it's been worked through quite a bit. I can't say it's perfect yet. I do think that those any further refinements that need to be forthcoming will be relatively minor in nature and I think it's a good bill now. I think this is a moment in time that we really need to think hard about because we have an opportunity to...here to have a truly local controlled scenic river area. That's our opportunity. Our possible loss is to lose control of that scenic river area so that it's managed entirely by the Park Service, such as a Yellowstone or a Grand Canyon or the other national...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...parks are...are managed, and if they do that they will take land and start taking easements and that process will begin.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Jones,