

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

March 2, 2004

LB 962

SENATOR SCHROCK: Well, the water issues in this state are kind of being...the resources...the demand for the resource is growing every year. Perhaps if the gentleman that started the Valmont center pivot circles hadn't invented that, we would still have plenty of water. But with the advent of the center pivot, and you drive out in the countryside and especially you get to central and western Nebraska, a lot of water is being used and a lot of land on rough ground is being irrigated and, I might add, very successfully. As far as the money involved and as far as representation, I think this bill is very important for municipalities. And by the way...

SENATOR BOURNE: I...I...let me interrupt just for a second.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Sure.

SENATOR BOURNE: And I'm not concerned about...I'm concerned about the importance to the state, and your comment in your opening was, is that if we don't do something, you're going to see rural Nebraska be a wasteland, I think is your term. So I'm, quite honestly, I'm more concerned about that than I am the municipalities, and believe that or not. I'm just trying to judge. This is what? The bill itself is \$4.7 million per year, Senator Schrock?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Two and a half million the first year, Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. And then 4.7 in the subsequent years?

SENATOR SCHROCK: That's correct.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. Then your next amendment that's coming down, this...I don't know if it's AM2785 or the next one, AM2849, that gives an additional 1 cent levy authority to the NRDs, is that in lieu of this \$4.7 million ongoing expenditure, or in addition to?

SENATOR SCHROCK: It's in addition, Senator Bourne.