

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

March 4, 2004

LB 962

evaluation of these different tracts they wanted to protect their interest in the tracts, is it conceivable that they might want to file more than three of these?

SENATOR SCHROCK: It's...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Maybe that's a matter of opinion, but...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yeah, it's possible, Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Maybe in responding you could indicate why three, for example, instead of five...

SENATOR SCHROCK: Well, I can tell you why...

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...were not chosen.

SENATOR SCHROCK: ...three was agreed to. It was agreed to by the representatives of the...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR SCHROCK: ...municipalities on the task force.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Beutler. Senator Mines, on FA1524.

SENATOR MINES: Thank you, Mr. President, colleagues. I rise in support of the amendment offered, and just wanted to respond to some of the comments about how important water is to everyone. And I think we all agree water is critical to every single person in Nebraska. And I think we all agree water runs downhill. And I think we all agree that western Nebraska is important, just like eastern Nebraska is important. And eastern Nebraska depends on water flow. And water is important to economic development, it's important to every fiber of our state. However, this is about irrigation, period. Irrigators use, not the vast majority, they use 88 percent of the water, and that's why we're in this position. It's about irrigation. Now I think Senator Beutler has come up with a creative way to engage irrigators, to allow them to participate in funding of a