

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

March 17, 2004 LB 962

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'd like to thank the body for the time spent on this bill. I think water is important for the state. We have some of our difference...we have differences on how we should finance it. I did agree with Senator Beutler that that would be my preferred way of funding. I'm not sure how that's going to shake out, but I will try and stick with a plan that is similar to what we agreed upon. I don't know what's going to happen, though. I do appreciate your indulgence on this. I can't think of anything more important to this state, at least to the agriculture community, than water, but I think it's also important to municipalities. I think, what, Omaha is something like 200 municipal wells. A lot of them are coming from the Platte River area. I think water is important for everybody in this state. It's important especially for agriculture. Without it, we would be a desert state, at least the western half of the state, and that's where the issues are, our most complex. There are things that need to be resolved yet, but I think we've resolved a lot of them. I think we've moved forward. We've spent our time wisely. I want to thank you Senator Beutler, Senator Wehrbein, Senator Chambers, Senator Bourne, Senator Stuhr, for her diligent time on the task force, members of the Natural Resources Committee, and I'd like to thank my staff. I would ask for your advancement of LB 962.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schrock. You've heard the closing on advancement of LB 962. The question before the body is, shall LB 962 be advanced to E & R Initial? All in favor of advancement vote aye, opposed nay. The question before the body is advancement of LB 962 to E & R Initial. Have you all voted on the advancement who care to? Have you all voted who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 31 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 962.

SENATOR CUDABACK: LB 962 does advance. Mr. Clerk, do you have any items for the record?

CLERK: Not at this time, Mr. President.