

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

March 10, 2005 LB 217

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Mines. I'm sorry.

SENATOR MINES: Thank you, Mr. President. Senator Schrock, the NRD, the Papio-Missouri NRD has done wonderful things, as have all NRDs across the state. In this particular instance, LB 217, this would allow entities as, without reexplaining it, it would allow them to bond projects without a vote of the people, without true public input and knowledge. It has been my experience with our NRD that many decisions don't reach full public disclosure, and I am concerned that, given the circumstances in my county of Washington, with the dam projects that are being proposed...not proposed, but are being forcefully and aggressively pursued, that this funding mechanism is just another tool that those in favor of primarily recreation, you could throw in some flood control but primarily recreation, could use their power of eminent domain, could displace farmers and farm families and, in fact, parts of the villages of Washington and Kennard without a vote of the people. I have a problem with that, Senator.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: I was...I was being visited by another senator. I didn't catch everything you said. Would you mind repeating that last statement? (Laughter)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Mines.

SENATOR MINES: (Laugh) I have a problem with that, Senator.

SENATOR SCHROCK: I'm not quite sure what you have...

SENATOR MINES: No, what I was saying, Senator, was that the...there's an aggressive plan to build a series of dams and reservoirs in Washington and northern Douglas County that would...that would use the power of eminent domain that those natural...that that natural resource district has to create environments that take property from farmers, that create lakes for recreation and, as a sidebar, for a 500-year flood plan, and then allow private citizens or private developers to build