

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

January 25, 2006 LB 32

bill at one session, but is going to be an ongoing process that, regardless of whether it's this Legislature and the individuals that are currently here or future legislatures, are going to have to grapple with this issue. So I just wanted to provide that clarity for the record and to make sure that it was reflected that Senator Beutler's comments were not limited specifically to just reflecting the benefit of one area of the state. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Erdman. Further discussion on the Chambers amendment to LB 32? Senator Chambers, there are no lights on. I will recognize you to close on your amendment, FA371.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. I am pleased that people are getting involved whenever the issue is presented, however way it is presented, in the discussion of the water matter. Senator Erdman shouldn't be so sensitive, but he's young. There are people who are not downstream from the people Senator Erdman was talking about. Rural people have a way of invoking the entire state when there's something they want, but that is not the way it always goes. I got a long memory, but it doesn't require it to be too long to remember what happened in 2002. Senator Beutler and others were interested in increasing the membership on the Game and Parks Commission from seven to eight, so that due to population shifts there was a better chance to have representation in southeastern Nebraska. I think Senator Wehrbein may have even agreed with that. And the rural people stood up and said...not all of them, because Senator Schrock saw the sense of it and Senator Schrock pointed out that you can dig your heels in on this if you want to, but as years go by there will be even fewer senators from the rural area and more from the urban area, so sometimes you have to face reality. I bet Senator Schrock didn't even know I remembered that, way back there in 2002. So when they say, from the rural areas, we don't want this urban-rural split, what they mean is they don't want the urban interests to unite and use their strength to do what will benefit their area, if it means that the disproportionate benefits that they get in the rural area will be diminished in any way. I won't give the year, but there's a young man here from the "Nawfuk" area, and that's the way old