

March 3, 1976

SENATOR BEREUTER: For commercial use, although I don't know of maybe four or five operations in the state, you would lose your tax exempt status. If you raised it for commercial fishing and if you charged fees on a regular basis and advertised that people can come in for \$5 an hour, you would lose your tax exempt status.

SENATOR COPE: Thank you.

SPEAKER BURBACH: The Chair recognizes Senator Kremer. The Chair recognizes Senator Swigart.

SENATOR SWIGART: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members, some of you have found opposition to bills of the present Senator's bill, may have found opposition to them, I am sure you will find this one to be righter than the past. Thanks, Wally. Outside of you, I appreciate the rousing hand of indifference. You know, ladies and gentlemen, this is a token step but it is a step and I don't think we should vote yes or no having any relationship to whether or not this is going to give the assessors a little bit more work to do. I don't think that ought to be a factor at all. It was a big factor in the hearing before our Committee. If there should develop large areas of reservoirs of water, this Legislature, I have learned, is going to be in session every year and one could make adjustments very quickly. But even if we should have those large reservoirs of water throughout this state, wouldn't that be a tremendous treasure. Think of the animals that could be raised, the domestic animals. Think of the wild fowl and wild animals that would be more prevalent. Think of the water level underneath. You know, the question came out during the hearing at our Constitutional Review and Recreational Hearing that the water that we reservoir above has a direct bearing upon the water level under the surface, underground water, and so the more water we can pile up the more we are going to have this tremendous treasure underground. So don't let's forget that. You know, Senator Kime, my good friend, Senator Kime, mentioned that you can't regulate Mother Nature but you know you can work with her, and I anticipate in the years to come that we are going to look back, that generations are going to look back and say why didn't the Legislature do something sooner about this tremendous need for water stored up in this dry Nebraska. And so we should do something. This is only a constitutional amendment. It must be implemented by the Legislature. What are we afraid of? Won't the future legislators after we are out of here have the good sense to implement it properly, if the people do vote for it? I think we should vote for it and certainly defeat this motion to kill.

SPEAKER BURBACH: Senator Frank Lewis.

SENATOR LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, my only purpose now is to rise and read an official proclamation that a number of us have put together. The bearer of this official paper is entitled to receive one free copy of reasonable