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LB 727

it will not act responsibly. If it is not willing to stand up at this point which is most crucial, then once you do the bigger thing, the smaller thing is going to follow just like night follows day. And if a resolution is brought before this Legislature, the vote on this bill will be the same vote on that resolution no matter what other factors come into play, no matter what other information is offered. So for myself I am going to do all I can to stop this bill and maybe I am the only one who feels this way. So if I am, you are going to vote against it but, nevertheless, I am doing what I am able to do under the circumstances at this time.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Schmit, and then Senator Beutler. You have about four minutes left on the bill.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Members of the Legislature, I wish that Senator Chambers liked me a little less and liked the bill a little more. It would be more to my liking at this particular time. I recognize the position which Senator Chambers takes and I recognize the correctness of many of his arguments. I want to point out that the situation in which we find ourselves is a unique one. It is one in which two states who are inextricably woven together in our interest find ourselves involved in a court test over the sale of a small amount of water from the Missouri River. The implications go far beyond that particular lawsuit. I have said many times and I have asked repeatedly and have been assured by both the Attorney General and the Governor of the State of Nebraska that they hope that the suit can be settled, can be settled soon. The plain ordinary facts of life are that the State of Nebraska must get along with our neighboring states. I do not feel that this Legislature should be completely removed from the process that so seriously affects the development between states. In this particular instance, the State of Nebraska and the State of South Dakota are going to have to settle their differences and they are going to have to settle it soon or else in another instance it is very unlikely that a hydropower line between Nebraska and Canada will be built across South Dakota to the detriment of all Nebraskans. If we do not do this soon, this line will not be built and then we will stand on this floor and we will ask ourselves why, what can