

February 22, 1979

LB 26

He can suggest to them and as I review this and I have talked to these other two state agencies, namely the Conservation Survey Division, the commission, the Natural Resources Commission. We think we have a problem here. Do you want to consider coming in? If he gets a response that says maybe we ought to consider it, he can call a hearing but he cannot bring them unless by written consent from that area.

PRESIDENT: One minute, Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Thank you, Mr. President. I will be asking for more time to get into this and the next one that I would be going to is geographic which we understand. Stratigraphic I believe we should get into the record but, Senator Frank Lewis, the local control mechanisms contained in 577 Senator Kremer has just stated are not being upset or unbalanced in any way. The local control is that the local people must initiate the action to control underground water use in their area. The final determination, after being requested from the local is set by the Water Resources Department in consultation with the other agencies in the state. I see also in LB 26 a new classification for causing a control area which is underground water pollution. In the Platte River Valley this is an extremely important item because we have a serious nitrate problem that there is no mechanism available in the NRD's or in underground water law to restrict the uses....

PRESIDENT: Time is up, Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Just this paragraph? ...to restrict these uses so that we can control the quality of the underground water as well as the quantity. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kremer, you are next and the Chair has just been advised that I do not believe you have ever explained the bill proper as the introducer in the committee. Would you at this time then answer those... Perhaps you will be answering some of the questions that are coming up on the floor, if you would do that. So that would make a difference of whether you have ten minutes or five minutes too. So you now have ten minutes to explain the bill.

SENATOR KREMER: This is the first opportunity I have ever had.

PRESIDENT: Okay, proceed to explain.