

think it is consistent with the concept...to the concepts about public power, one being that the state needs, as a whole, was to be accomplished through public power when it was first established in the thirties, and secondly that the cost of those...of that electrical energy, irregardless of where it was to be ultimately consumed in the state, would also be a factor that would be concerned so that all portions of the state would be treated equally, but not...with the only exception of those costs that might be involved in transmission over a distance in that kind of consideration. There will be an amendment offered which will allow for an exception, which I will support, which will permit existing facilities in municipalities to be replaced, and that seems reasonable together with the size limitation, and also an exception if it's only for their internal use. I think that amendment will be proposed by Senator Fowler and explained by him, but I do support that, and to my knowledge that would take away any concern that was previously expressed to the bill, or about the bill in the public hearing.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Is there any other discussion about the bill as a whole, before we go to the amendments? Senator Wesely, do you wish to discuss the bill as a whole?

SENATOR WESELY: Yes.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I am very pleased to be a cosponsor of LB 119. LB 119 as explained by Senator Warner, I think, indicates a very positive step forward in dealing with some of the problems we have with public power in the State of Nebraska. Basically, what LB 119 does is close the loophole. There is presently a loophole where municipal power systems do not have to go before the Power Review Board unlike any other power district or power entity in the State of Nebraska. Why the exception? Senator Warner explained some of the action that was taken in 1963, but what was valid in 1963 does not necessarily hold true in 1979. I think the time for LB 119 has come. I think it's a positive step forward, and I urge your support.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Is there any other discussion on the bill as a whole? Okay. The Clerk will read the first amendment then.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Fowler, as introducer, moves to amend the bill as follows: (Amendment may be found on Pages 695 and 696 of the Legislative Journal.)