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that should be looked at. Senator Dworak brings forth a major issue, minimum stream flow, and in our draft we put some specific suggestions as to how we would like to see some of that money spent. We suggested, and perhaps Senator Kremer feels it's inappropriate for the Legislature to suggest what should come from this plan. Now this is not to say that the Natural Resources Commission can't study other things. Certainly they can. All we said is, please when you're spending our money, would you look at these issues. That's really the prime difference between the two drafts. Senator Kremer does not want the Legislature to be involved in selecting an Advisory Committee. Senator Kremer does not feel that the Legislature should suggest what the Natural Resource Commission should study. The Appropriations Committee feels that because of the large investment in terms of state dollars in this plan, and because of its crucial impact on what we do in subsequent years in this Legislature with regards to water, this Legislature should get involved now. If you go with Senator Kremer's draft, understand that you have surrendered Legislative control over the water plan...understand that you have surrendered any right for us to be involved, and therefore understand that whatever document is presented to you you have no right to criticize it. I think this Legislature should stay involved in this planning process. I don't think that we should hand it away and somehow hope that some state agency will bring a solution to us. The solution ultimately will have to be decided here on this legislative floor. It's time this Legislature assumed some responsibility in state water planning. That's the goal of the Appropriations Committee draft. I oppose Senator Kremer's amendment.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Merz.

SENATOR MERZ: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I too served two years in Public Works and have spent quite a bit of time and effort and have a lot of concern about the water of Nebraska. I find myself in a little unusual spot right now, but I am supporting Senator Dworak and Senator Cullan in their statements. I feel that when we hand this thing over, we're making a mistake. We have spent millions of dollars through ten state agencies for the last ten-fifteen years to study and do something about water, and what we need to do is tell these people to get on the ball and get something done in regards. We have these ten agencies out there working now. Why haven't they done something? Why is the water getting worse? Do they need some law to back them up, or some more teeth in this matter? I think that we're making a mistake here by giving this thing totally