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LB 873

be state highway and part of it might be the recreational road and now you have another classification beyond that and I don't understand it I guess exactly where the break off is. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Wesely and then Senator Vickers.

SENATOR WESELY: Senator Hoagland, I would like to ask you one question. This is a permissive bill. Isn't it? The State Department of Roads would have the final authority on deciding whether or not to proceed with the option you are going to provide in this legislation. Isn't that...?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Yes, absolutely, Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: So it doesn't force a scenic road versus some other type of highway if it is felt in the mind of the State Roads Department that it is not appropriate?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Exactly.

SENATOR WESELY: But they have that option now?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: That is right.

SENATOR WESELY: I think that is very reasonable legislation, a very reasonable approach to a problem that we have had at several locations in the state and I support the bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Yes, Mr. Speaker and fellow members, as a member of the committee that heard this bill I feel maybe I should point out to some of my rural colleagues my point of view as to what we are attempting to do here. Even though this bill was brought in for a specific purpose for a specific area, those of us from greater Nebraska, if you will, from western Nebraska think there is some areas out there that could qualify for scenic viewpoints also. It seems to me that we are creating a classification here where perhaps we could get a few more blacktop roads in rural areas of the State of Nebraska even though they wouldn't be built quite to the specifications that are required that they be built to at the present time. I certainly see nothing wrong with that and as Senator Wesely pointed out it is permissive legislation. It allows the department to make the determination but from my point of view it could give us a few more hard surfaced roads in rural Nebraska, some of the areas that maybe we look at them all the time and don't realize they are pretty and scenic but to our urban cousins they probably would be. I would urge the body's support of this bill.