

the commission today. The structure of the commission was changed several years ago when 1357 was passed. It used to be made up mostly of agency people and they could make determinations probably more rapidly and come out with something that is workable than we are able to do now. We now have fifteen members on the commission. You add a member and we have got sixteen. I feel maybe it is too large now. The only determination was to see that each river basin was represented and they are. Now what is needed in the river basin concept is not necessarily determined by population. I will agree that population pays the taxes. I will have to agree on that. This is true but the problems related to the river basins are unique in themselves so this should be a representation from the river basins. This is true, and then we have those that are elected at large and those that are elected by virtue of they represent surface irrigators and ground-water irrigators and so on. I have not heard and I have tried to find out that there is any dissention in the commission. It now works. I don't believe there is a rural-urban split. I am not aware of it. I don't think there ever will be. I think all Nebraskans are anxious to do what is good and right for Nebraska. At this point I can't see the necessity of enlarging the commission. I think every river basin is being represented. The metropolitan area is represented by virtue of the fact that the Governor has appointed the member at large from that area and I would hope that he would always do so. The present member is effective, he is knowledgeable, he is doing a tremendous job and I don't know of any problem. Going back to Senator Warner again, if we don't have any trouble, let's not fix it. I will continue to oppose the bill until such time that perhaps the member at large is not appointed from a metropolitan area and then I will have a new look at it.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, fellow members, I rise in opposition to LB 423 also. I am not opposed to urban people being involved in water legislation in the State of Nebraska or water planning but I don't think that is the issue here this morning. I think the issue is water planning, period, not by who is doing the planning but whether the planning is going to be done. The system set up, as Senator Kremer said, is working. The system is set up on a river basin area simply because we are dealing with water. We are not dealing with people, Senator Lewis. We are dealing with water. Now if Omaha