

March 21, 1980

LB 873

SENATOR HOAGLAND: I would like to speak just briefly, Mr. Speaker and colleagues, in opposition to the Kelly amendment. Now I think there is a fundamental misunderstanding as to what this bill does. This bill is permissive. Now we have a State Board of Highway Classifications that makes decisions and it makes decisions as to how roads are to be classified, whether they are to be classified as interstate or as expressway or major arterial, or if this bill passes, they will have an additional option called "scenic recreation". Now once they make the decision as to how the road is to be classified, why then a whole set of design criteria apply to that road, and by permitting a scenic recreation classification, why then roads can be built to thirty or thirty-five mile an hour specifications. Now I am sure a lot of you have driven around Washington, D.C., and a lot of you have driven in Maryland and Virginia where there is a lot of scenic beauty and in those states there are a lot of small little winding roads and in those states instead of plowing a highway right through a grove of beech trees, they will have the road go around it so none of the beech trees will be destroyed. Now this bill is essentially permissive. It permits this Bureau of Classifications to define a road as recreation if it matches several criteria and those criteria include scenic beauty and I think it makes sense to permit them to make this classification if a road is a road of particular scenic beauty as this road is that we are dealing with in this particular piece of legislation along the Platte River, and that if Senator Kelly fully understood what this bill was about and how it was to operate, he wouldn't be asking that this amendment be put on.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, the motion before the House is to adopt the Kelly amendment to LB 873, right? All those in favor of that motion vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Senator Kelly, I am going to call for the vote. Record the vote.

CLERK: 8 ayes, 11 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Motion lost. Do you have any other amendments to 873?

CLERK: Senator Kelly has an amendment, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kelly.