

March 31, 1980

LB 1004

addressed and if I were to make a couple of specific recommendations I would suggest that we change the words "current year" in line 17 on page 9 to "previous year" and that we change the word "any" on line 25 to "final" report. If you would not have any objection to that I would like to prepare an amendment to that effect.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, and specifically Senator Loran Schmit, Senator Schmit, you, Senator Warner, Senator Kremer, before me and Senator Dick Lewis and myself and many others, during our time here, Senator Beutler and Senator Vickers as would come along following us are extremely interested in the activities present and future of public power in Nebraska, recognize it is the only thing we have. There is no other way except through the Midcontinent Interchange can we turn our lightbulbs on in Nebraska. We've got to do it through our public power. The ultimate authority of public power in Nebraska is the floor of this Legislature and we all understand that. We've talked to it many times. You've heard me refer to the Powerless Review Board. That is in jest naturally but it is also a criticism of the fact that we do not coordinate public power activities in this state probably to the detriment of the power entities and the future wellbeing of the citizens of Nebraska. The intent language in LB 1004 is a request from the Legislature to public power that they collect this public information in one filing cabinet in one place so that it can be very easily found, interpreted and studied by those who are interested in this question. To date, should you want to find this information, I would guess most any question that you maybe would have would cause an expense to that agency or this Legislature of a hundred fifty, two hundred, three hundred dollars in just time or telephone bills. It should be that we can collect and the Power Review Board one spot where \$15 can answer any question that we would like to have. Any suggestions that you would have, Senator Schmit, that would more purposefully get to that point as a member of the Appropriations Committee and as part of the sponsors of the language contained in 1004, with your history in public power, blindly would I be willing to take whatever amendment you would want to put to this language because I know they would be progressive and helpful but recognize that what we are trying to do is to get together in one easily accessible place, information on public power so that you could go over there and ask a sensible question and get an accurate answer instead of the answers we get today.