

March 31, 1980

LB 1004

CLERK: Yes, Mr. President, one just came, Senator Kremer to amend the bill: (Read Kremer amendment found on page 1600 of the Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Before we get to the Kremer amendment the Chair would like to introduce up here in the North balcony some guests from Senator Wagner's district, 51 students, eighth graders from Centura School from Dannebrog, Boelus and Cairo and with the teachers Donna Erikson and Anita Schlund. They are up here. Would they stand and be recognized. Welcome to your Legislature. The Chair recognizes Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, the amendment just read by the Clerk strikes line 17 through lines 21 on page 25 which in essence says, "The Legislature encourages the commission to provide no more than 50% of a project cost in order to maximize the use of state resources in the development of water conservation and flood control projects. Now what we are going to do is end up with nothing. Presently the state is funding up to 90% of a project. If we cut that down to 50% there is going to be no projects built. The local NRDs do not have the funds to fund anything close to 50% and the idea to get, hopefully get some federal funds is pretty remote right now. I would much rather fund beyond 50% and get something done, at least on a few projects than to limit it to 50% and get nothing. There is no use talking any further. We tried desperately to get more money in this fund and we made a terrible mistake. Now the best we can do is to allow greater funding than 50%, at least get something done than to limit it to 50% and get nothing done. I move the adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Schmit, speaking to the Kremer amendment.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I completely support Senator Kremer. I concur with his conclusions. I think that what you have done if you go to adopt LB 1004 with this language in it is that you have wiped out the development fund. That will never be used. It will be absolutely impossible to construct any projects if you demand 50% support from the local Natural Resource District. The reason behind the development fund when we originated it was because there would be considerable benefit that would accrue to the State of Nebraska and surrounding Natural Resource Districts from the construction of projects within a district. This directly contrasts with the conservation