

programs we have. There is nothing wrong with that but as soon as we start putting money up, put our money where our mouth is to provide money for these projects, why we immediately run into a buzz saw and they say, oh, we don't want to do that. We'll make the local people do it and local people are putting money into it and they should put money into it, but if the State of Nebraska as a whole isn't interested in the conservation of water and in the projects that are being built well then let's say so. Let's don't continually hack away at the programs that we have and try to break them down so they don't amount to anything and then say, go home in eight days and say, oh, my, we really did something. Now if you want to do that just keep hacking away at these appropriations and take the money away and push more of it on the local entity and you will have exactly what you want, nothing. So I hope that you won't support this and you will get behind these programs and we can conserve some water. I made the statement the other day there is enough water going out of the state right now to solve all our problems if we could just capture it and I am serious about that. So let's not hamper the programs that we have. Let's make it possible for them to do the job and let's provide the funding as it was intended. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Before we go on to the next speaker, the Chair takes pleasure in introducing from Senator Sieck's district some 11 seventh and eighth grade students from St. Paul's Lutheran School at Utica, Mr. Paul Heidorn and three adults up here in the North balcony. Would they stand and be recognized? Stand up and be recognized. Welcome to your Legislature. Senator Schmit, did you wish to speak again?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, Mr. President, I know that there are arguments and some good ones relative to trying to spread this money out across the state as far as you can. I know there are some people who think that because one project was funded at 50% and another at 75% that they should all be funded at 50% by the local people but I don't think that we should just because a project at Columbus required 50% local funding, require 50% on every individual project. Now we can say we really don't intend or we really don't force them to do it but that intent language can be taken as a pretty effective kind of club. For example, I think that the very fact that the conservation fund was held down below what the intent language of 1979 called for and the, pardon me, the development fund was held below what 596 of '79 called for and the conservation fund was increased considerably. It is going to indicate very strongly to those officials responsible that if they want any kind of funds out of this Legislature, they had better