

April 18, 1980

LB 1002

the water that is available to us. Now let me read for you the resolution that was passed in Kansas City in the January meeting of the study council. Now if you will listen, "Only those amounts of water estimated to be surplus to those present uses and future needs will be recognized as being potentially available for exportation to the High Plains Ogallala Aquifer region." Now that ought to get our attention. Now I offer this reconsideration because we are simply going to have to appropriate some money and a lot more than we have been appropriating to store some of Nebraska's water that is available to us or it is going to be declared surplus, pure and simple. We tried to get more money into this fund at the time that LB 1002 was presented to us for consideration and we failed. Now all I am trying to do here is try to keep at least that which was brought to us by the Appropriations Committee and it deals only with the Water Development Fund or \$150,000. Mr. Chairman and fellow members, I urge you, I beg of you to at least give us this consideration and stop the possibility of Nebraska losing their water to other states.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have heard the motion by Senator Kremer. Senator Vickers, do you wish to be heard on the Kremer motion? Senator Vickers is gone. Senator Haberman. Oh, I thought you had gone to Eustis. I couldn't see you.

SENATOR VICKERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am still here yet. Mr. Speaker and fellow members, I rise to support Senator Kremer in his attempt to put some more funds into the Development Fund. I just want to make one short comment. This body has had some differences on water policies this session but one of the things, and most of the differences, by the way, have seemed to surface from the rural people, but one of the things that I think the rural people can almost unanimously support is more development to keep the water that we have in the State of Nebraska, that we don't let, as Senator Kremer pointed out, surplus water, what would look like surplus water to some other state, go out of this state. I would also point out to this body that for those of you that have studied hydrology at all you do know that the only way to alleviate the shortages that have developed in some places in the state is to put more surface water on top and that definitely is what development is all about is to attempt to replenish some of the underground water. I would certainly beg of this body to support Senator Kremer in this attempt. I would further point out that it seems rather odd to me personally that the Governor would veto this very needed appropriation after the comments that he made at the Nebraska Water Council meeting this spring