

SPEAKER MARVEL: Before we get into the discussion, in the north balcony, I think just coming in now are 40 students from Juniata, Nebraska, Norma Diggs and Julie Peterson, teachers. Hold up your hands so we can see where you are located. Welcome to the Unicameral. Senator Kremer, do you wish to explain the bill?

SENATOR KREMER: I believe Mr. President, I have an amendment or two up there that should probably be adopted. I can explain the bill and then perhaps that would be an advantage in adopting the amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Why don't you explain it briefly and then we will go. . . .

SENATOR KREMER: LB 326 is a Public Works Committee bill and it is a priority bill, it is my priority bill. What LB 326 does it accomplishes what we have done through a resolution, I believe number 300, and the intent bill of each year. It would do away with. . . each year we have to struggle with what we are expecting of the Natural Resources Commission and we put it into the statutes. What it basically does is it does two things. Number one it eliminates obsolete language or in the statutes now makes reference to a state water plan. We do not have anything in the way of a state water plan that is under planning right now but we have adopted, the legislature has gone along with the commission when they said we shall use a process known as planning and review. So there is no reference to a state water plan. So, that eliminates that. It goes on and it recognizes the role of the Natural Resources Commission and other state agencies that are involved in this planning and review process. It makes provisions for the existence and functions of a public advisory board made up of eleven people recommended by the Executive Board, they are to submit names of not less than three, I believe, or not more than five to the Commission and out of this, out of this list they are to appoint a public advisory board that seems to be necessary and adviseable when we are dealing with some of the issues related to water resources in our state. Number three it recognizes the planning and review process related functions of the interagency water coordinating committee. Now this committee I believe is also made up of eleven people and they consist the agency such as the. . . some of the university functions, the water center, the conservation survey division, the Department of Agriculture and state agencies of that nature. Number four, it recognizes the specification of