

March 24, 1982

LR 256, 257

dams as point sources of pollution. The court decision came after many years of a lawsuit by the National Wildlife Federation to force the federal government to treat dams as point sources of pollution. If this order is allowed to stand, a great many beneficial water projects in Nebraska and Wyoming that provide irrigation water and hydro-electric generation for Nebraska could be jeopardized. Again, I point out that EPA, the government agency that is charged with the federal programs to clean up our streams, does not consider dams as a point source of pollution. It is clear that the federal government and the Congress did not intend dams to be considered as point sources of pollution. Because of the additional paper work, licensing, permits and other requirements that could be involved and because of the litigation that would be possible and the interference of operation of beneficial water projects we have today it is important that the Nebraska Legislature indicate our support of the federal government to appeal the court's decision and for the Congress to enact legislation that has been discussed to specifically exempt dams as point sources of pollution and thereby clarify the intent of the Congress. I ask for LR 256 to be approved.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Sieck.

SENATOR SIECK: Mr. President and members of the body, I, too, would like to add my name on that list. I know there are 40 senators on there and I don't know how I came to be left out, but I did, because I'm one of the members down here that really highly endorses water projects and yet this particular issue I am quite interested in and I know that we need to do something. So I am asking for unanimous consent to allow my name to be placed on the resolution.

PRESIDENT: All right, Senator Sieck, I don't know that there is any...is there any objection? So ordered. Your name is added, Senator Sieck. Anything further on the LR 256? Senator Nichol, any closing? No closing, so the question before the House is the adoption of LR 256. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. I don't know if there is going to be anybody...anyone else want to vote? Record the vote.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The motion carries and LR 256 is adopted. We will next go to LR 257.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 257...first of all, Mr. President, Senator Apking would like to add her name as co-introducer to that resolution. Mr. President, 257 was offered by Senators