

have indicated a few times, the one man, one vote theory and to do something different. I would be willing to discuss that, but I think it is also very true that since most the conservation work is done in the rural areas that if, for example, I believe if we had a one man, one vote board of directors in the Lower Platte North, maybe I believe probably 14 or 15 of them would come...of the 21 would from Fremont. Now that...if I had known that was going to happen, I probably would have drawn the districts a little bit differently a number of years ago and excluded Fremont, but that didn't happen. But I guess I am concerned that as long as there is a system which seems to be working and the people seemed to be satisfied with it, I am satisfied. I would hope that if we ever get a dominance of persons on the board from urban areas that the farmers would not have more of a closed vine toward conservation practices which I think is a very real threat.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Is it correct that under this bill, for example, if they chose to do so, a natural resource district could pledge essentially all of its taxing power to one project for a period of years, I mean I understand that that is an extreme example but isn't that theoretically possible as opposed to the system today where they have a lot more difficulty pledging revenues from future years to these uses?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, of course, based upon the normal operations of a district, the money that it takes just to normally operate for staff, et cetera, I think if you were to take the balance of the funds that would be raised from that 3.5 cent per 100 mill levy, it would never pay off an obligation bond. It would require some sort of an income from, as I said, a water district or some specific project, or, number two, it would require a vote of the people to go over that 3.5 cents per 100 levy. I don't think you could ever pay them off otherwise.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Would this bill allow the local natural resource district to assist the City of Lincoln or the City of Omaha in the construction of a sanitary and improvement...or a sewage treatment plant, for example? Could it be used for that purpose?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes. Yes, I believe it would. I believe it would.