

continues to do nothing about it, there will be lawsuits and much of the NRD money is going to be eaten up defending lawsuits and eventually you'll lose the lawsuit. Eventually you'll lose the lawsuit anyway. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beyer is next, but before you go, Senator Beyer, Senator Nelson has asked me to introduce some ladies in our north balcony. They are women involved in WIFE which of course means Women Involved In Farm Economics. Would you please stand and be recognized. Thank you for attending the Legislature this morning. Senator Beyer.

SENATOR BEYER: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, here we go again. Senator Wesely said he's had this bill in every year since he's been in the Legislature. It seems to always either get killed in committee or get killed right on the floor. We're wasting an awful lot of time with the amount of bills that we've got before us to go over this. It's had a full public hearing, well attended, very basically very little support for it and a lot of opposition to it. It's been ruled that the one man, one vote principle carries in the at large elections, and if people don't want to run, they've either have not got an interest to serve or they just don't care or things are being handled satisfactorily. If you figure... Senator Wesely talks about the population figures, but you look at the per capita income or taxes, the rural paid 10-1 over the urban on taxes on this particular issue. A lot of the work that is done in the rural protects the City of Omaha and the City of Lincoln so it is money that is well spent to benefit them. Also the money is spent there in the urban districts. I have sat through those meetings and have never seen a big argument as to where that money is being spent so they must be doing a pretty good job. With that, I would oppose raising the bill out of committee.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lamb, then Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, I also rise to oppose the motion to bring this bill back. Now I would like to tell the body that part of the bill, Senator Wesely's bill, is being handled in another bill, LB 302, and that has to do with the filing for primary instead of the petition process. The committee decided that there was some merit in Senator Wesely's suggestion that the cumbersome petition process be abolished and that these people file for election