

activities along the Niobrara River. Trail development is a possibility in that particular area, Senator Lamb. The Fort Robinson area, the Scottsbluff Monument area, the Missouri River corridor, from Platte to Brownville, the Arbor Lodge connection, which is already developing a large tourist following, the Platte River areas, the Lake McConaughy area, Gavins Point, Devils Nest, and the Fremont Lakes are all areas that can be connected and interlinked, locally, and even between larger areas with recreational trails that are heavily used by people, if the experience of the rest of the nation is relevant, and I think that it is. With that, Madam President, I would stop, as far as opening is concerned, and invite comment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Beutler. I'll now recognize Senator Schmit, followed by Senator Ashford and Senator Lamb. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, first of all, I commend Senator Beutler for the bill, although I do not know yet if I'll support it, I doubt that I will. I think Senator Beutler does point out that there are individuals who enjoy a certain type of recreation and a certain type of activity, who today probably are limited in their ability to enjoy that. The cyclers, for example, who we see in increased numbers, are sometimes criticized by motorists, and sometimes are at risk by motorists, and, in fact, the son of a very good friend of mine died in the city as a result of an accident between a bicycle and an automobile, a very uneven equation, I might add. I do have some concern, and I want to express those concerns. I think that we have to recognize that we have limited resources. I think that we have to recognize that we do have the NRDs, and we have the Game and Parks, we have many city parks, areas which today lend themselves to this type of activity. I'm concerned, I guess, about the fact that today we might start a program for a very small amount of money which would grow into a program which could be extremely expensive and one which would, in fact, perhaps duplicate other existing programs. I know that we have been arguing about what we're going to do relative to the budget process. And when that comes up on the floor, the debate will be long and loud, I'm sure, as to what we can afford and we cannot afford. My principal concern at this time, Senator Beutler, is whether or not, at this time, that we can afford to start this kind of a program; as of now, I really don't think we can. Perhaps, by the time you have debated the bill for a long period of time, you will convince me otherwise. But, at this