

giant game of chicken, we ought to just bow out right now, not appropriate the money and roll over. And I guess that's where I differ on the method of trying to deal with it. I think Senator Schmit, maybe, maybe not, Senator Schmit and I would agree that we don't want to roll over and give them the water rights. Do we...am I right, Senator Schmit, that you and I would agree that we have a legitimate concern that needs to be protected here? Senator Schmit. Senator Schmit thinks that's been resolved. I guess I don't...I'm not confident of that. There's nothing I would wish better than if Governor Nelson and the Governor of Wyoming and Mike Jess and his counterpart in Wyoming, if they go hunting somewhere up in the Panhandle or Wyoming and solved this problem, we wouldn't have to spend the money, that would be hunky dory fine with me. But I don't know if that's going to happen. And until I'm convinced that's going to happen, I think the prudent thing to do, if you think this water issue is important, I think it's important that we do appropriate the funds and contest it. And if you take this appropriation out, what do you...the State of Nebraska would be sitting there with \$100,000 is what Senator Schmit leaves in, correct, \$100,000 to fight these...this legal battle with, and Wyoming, we understand appropriated \$5 million. Now does that mean that Wyoming will forget about it and come to the table with us? I don't know. But it's a risk I don't want to run. And I guess my preferred method would be to leave the money in. I think Governor Nelson, Senator Schmit, Senator Morrissey, Senator Elmer, Senator Johnson and myself, I could not concur more that if there is a way to solve this without spending millions of dollars on legal fees, let's try and find a way to do that. Until I'm convinced that that absolutely is solved some other method, I guess I'm willing to fight for this issue because I think it's an important issue for the State of Nebraska and we ought to appropriate the money but it's, hopefully, it's my hope that we don't have to spend it. Until Senator Schmit and Senator Morrissey and Senator Elmer and whomever can solve this, it would be my preference to leave the money in.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members, I would like to ask Senator Schmit, I guess, a question.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Schmit, would you respond to a question, please.