

original intentions. So if you have substantive arguments, make them. I respect those. But if you do not, then I think we owe it to each other if, in our best intellectual judgment, we don't have anything that we can say is bad with this bill then I think we owe it to each other to support each other and vote for things that appear to be progressive and that's all I would ask you to do with respect to this particular measure. I think it is progressive. I think it does no more than exactly what we've been discussing today. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Nelson, you're next.

SENATOR NELSON: Senator Beutler, I appreciate our working through this bill and I guess maybe I'm beginning to think that some of our fears are answered and that the bill could maybe be supported. If we pass this legislation today, we may have a bill that we maybe can work with and if we wait three or four more years we don't know what will be coming down the pipeline too. However, I...ex-Governor Hayden of Kansas, with the federal government now, spoke in Grand Island Saturday evening and this somewhat concerns me. He's former Kansas Governor and he commented on the sandhill cranes and the federal government and the fish and wildlife and so on. As Hayden noted, a recent Kansas decision that a water right for a wildlife refuge has precedence over an agricultural right. He said he foresees similar decisions elsewhere as agencies seek more balance in water use now dominated by agriculture. And help me out, Chris. Is this...I've been told that this legislation does pattern the Kansas legislation passed in 1983. Is that true, Chris, or not?

PRESIDENT MOUL PRESIDING

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, Senator.

SENATOR NELSON: Did you hear my question?

SENATOR BEUTLER: No, I'm sorry, I didn't.

SENATOR NELSON: Oh, I'm sorry. All right. Ex-Governor Hayden of Kansas, who is now assistant interior secretary, spoke in Grand Island at the...to the wildlife groups and the crane celebration. He made this comment. He noted a recent Kansas