

we'll have to have a permit to slop the hogs.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Marsh has some guests in the north balcony. We have 12 students from Union College here in Lincoln. Would you students please stand. Thank you. We appreciate your being here this morning. Further discussion on the bracketing motion, Senator Nelson, for a second time.

SENATOR NELSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a couple questions and maybe...I don't sit on Natural Resources, maybe Senator Schmit could address them or Senator Johnson. I guess I probably have to apologize that I didn't go through this bill a little more thorough first. First place is I would like to know from one of you, on page 4, line 18, no permit shall be approved unless the landowner and, if appropriate, the operator enters into a conservation agreement as defined in section 2-4603. Senator Schmit, can you help me out on that? Is that almost identical to our 1985 Farm Bill, mandating that we have a practice in place and so on, and no program payments after such, you know, if it isn't implemented and if any woodlands is plowed up or a farmstead, lots or anything? Is that identical nearly or not?

SENATOR SCHMIT: I really can't identify the specific language, Senator Nelson, but it is my concern and my conviction, I would say, that the 1985 Federal Farm Bill just about covers everything. I know people who can hardly drain a mud puddle the size of a washtub anymore without getting a permit for draining swampland. The same is true with grasslands. They've just about, under the '85 farm bill, taken over the business of managing your farm or my farm. We don't really know a damn thing anymore.

SENATOR NELSON: I know that. Okay, another concern that I have when I read the bill, when I go to page 5, line...start with 17 or 18, 17, when cropping has been discontinued as required by a permit shall be liable for the costs to the district of applying necessary conservation practices or revegetating such land. Okay, they have ten days notice and the landowner has ten days' time to make a correction. Well, you're not going to make a correction in any of those practices in ten days or six months, probably. But I...another question then with the bill, how does the NRDs have authority for filing lawsuits then and funding and so on? Senator Johnson maybe.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: The answer is yes, Senator, they do have.