

coordination, development and implementation of a groundwater quality management plan. It just depends on how you see this. Is it to manage the use of pesticides, or is it to manage...to do a true groundwater management plan? I think the end result is the protection of the groundwater, that's why I support the...Senator Beutler's amendment. But saying that, again, read the amendment. The amendment allows, as Senator Coordsen pointed out, the Department of Ag to involve other state agencies or entities of state government in the development and implementation of any groundwater quality management plan relating to economic poisons. So if you're talking overall plan, groundwater, the department is involved, the Department of Environmental Control. This bill is pointing at economic poisons, that's where the Department of Ag has their expertise. Quite honestly, I don't think the Department of Environmental Control, at this point, has the manpower, the staffing to take on a whole 'nother issue, economic poisons, beyond what they're already doing on groundwater quality. It meshes however you look at it. The flexibility that the Ag Committee has written into this allows it to work either way. Again, later on in the amendment, the Director of Ag may enter into cooperative agreements with other agencies of the state and agencies of the federal government to receive delegation of authority to administer and enforce pesticide laws and receive federal grants and aid. And they obligate funds allocated to the Department of Ag to the level required for participation in any federal grant program for the purpose of carrying out such sections. It allows the flexibility to do the program right. No matter which agency is the lead agency, I think we need to do the legislation. Don't let one group or the other swerv...push you away from the concept of managing our pesticides and fertilizers correctly, protecting our groundwater, because I think both agencies can do it well. I support Senator Beutler's amendment, I can support it without Senator Beutler's amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Morrissey. Mr. Clerk, do you have items for the record.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Lindsay and Senator Cudaback have amendments to be printed to LB 111. Government Committee reports LB 978 to General File; LB 990, General File; LB 992, General File; LB 1051, General File; LB 288, General File with amendments. Urban Affairs Committee reports LB 1008 to General File with committee amendments. Those signed by the respective