

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

February 24, 2000 LB 900, 1069  
LR 20

E & R for engrossment. Those in favor say aye. Those opposed nay. The bill is advanced.

CLERK: LB 900, I have Enrollment and Review amendments, first of all, Senator. (AM7192, Legislative Journal page 655.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Mr. President, I move the adoption of E & R amendments to LB 900.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Question is the adoption of the E & R amendments to LB 900. Those in favor say aye. Those opposed nay. The amendments are agreed to.

CLERK: Senator Schrock would move to amend, Mr. President. (AM2541, Legislative Journal pages 785-787.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Schrock, you are recognized to open on AM2541 to LB 900.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the Legislature, LB...or AM2541 is originally LB 1069, it is a pretty straightforward bill that was passed by the Natural Resources Committee. I'd like to briefly explain it to you. What LB 1069 does, and it was introduced by Senator Baker, it allows cost-sharing for measuring devices for use in surface water irrigation in the Republican River Basin and extends the date for meeting requirements from...that 90 percent of active, eligible wells be measured to June 1, 2001 instead of April 1, 2001. The natural resource districts thought that an extra 60 days may be beneficial if they ran into bad spring weather in the year 2001. What this does is a few years ago we passed legislation that required the Republican River Basin to put metering devices on their alluvial wells. And we appropriated \$1.5 million for that, a half a million dollars a year, and the natural resource districts in that area of the state, the three Republican Natural Resource Districts and the Tri-Basin have done an excellent job of doing that and they're complying with the intent of the law very well. But we have this small issue of surface water wells, in other words wells that are pumping water out of the river that are not being measured. And they're