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FLOOR DEBATE

February 5, 2001 LB 55, 472

ground water is defined as that required for health, fire control or sanitation. Now it's important to note that this bill is not a blank check which would permit unrestricted domestic use ground water transfers. Remember, the capacity of the well or series of wells cannot exceed 50 gallons and, in addition, the person making such a domestic transfer would be liable for damages if he, in fact, withdrew unreasonable water and would cause harm to another person through lowering of the water table or by reducing the artesian pressure. That's it in a nutshell. So the bill would allow transfers of water off overlying land for domestic purposes, and I would appreciate your support on this bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Debate on advancement of the bill? Seeing none, Senator Hudkins, you are recognized to close. She waives that closing. The question before the body is the advancement of LB 472. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Please record.

CLERK: 33 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 472.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: LB 472 advances. LB 55.

CLERK: LB 55, a bill by Senator Landis. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 4, referred to the Banking Committee, advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments, Mr. President. (AM0089, Legislative Journal page 419.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Landis, you are recognized to open on the bill.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Senator Kristensen, members of the Legislature. This bill was reported out of the Banking, Commerce, and Insurance Committee with a unanimous vote of its members. It had the support of both the trial attorneys and the insurance industry, which is the lions and the lambs, or the lions and the tigers, minus the bears, or some strange conglomeration that we don't normally expect to see in a bill. LB 55 comes originally from some model language suggested to the