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FLOOR DEBATE

March 28, 2006 LB 489, 962A, 1226
 LR 431-438

Valley, not in the long term. In the short term, okay, but not in the long term. And the LB 962 committee, which was supposed to have afforded you with a financial solution to this problem, has suggested nothing other than a dedicated long-term General Fund payment, year after year after year, and that, I don't think, is the answer that most of us want. We shouldn't be paying out of General Funds for the speculation that has taken place. That should correct itself. Everybody agreed to share water on an equal basis, and in times of shortage to share shortages equally.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: There never in the history of the state has been a system put into place that said to either surface water users or to ground water users, we will pay you if you come up short, or we will pay Kansas if you use too much, or we will use General Fund monies in these kinds of irrigation systems. It's just not good business, it's not good government, and we ought to put into place a mechanism that gets us back on the right path. And I think this mechanism is such a mechanism. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. You've heard the closing on AM2936 to the committee amendments. All in favor of adopting the amendment vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Voting on the adoption of the Beutler amendment, AM2936, an amendment to the Natural Resources Committee amendments. Have you all voted on the amendment who care to? Have you all voted? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 2 ayes, 11 nays, Mr. President, on the amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The amendment is not adopted. Mr. Clerk, you have any items for the record?

CLERK: I do, Mr. President. A series of study resolutions: LR 431, Senator Preister; Business and Labor, LR 432 and LR 433, LR 434, LR 435, LR 436; Senator Schimek, LR 437; Senator Dwite Pedersen, LR 438. Amendments to be printed: Senator Beutler to LB 489; Senator Price to LB 962A. (Legislative Journal