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FLOOR DEBATE

April 11, 2006 LB 1113, 1226

and the public whose tax dollars went to build the dam can't even put a fishing line in there? That doesn't even make sense. So it was a good hearing, it made sense to the entire committee. We were unanimous in our vote to send this bill forward; we were unanimous in putting it in LB 1113. We worked with Senator Mines' office in good faith, who worked with Dean Epsom (sic), whoever he may be, in good faith on four times and came back with language, worked with Dean Epsom (sic) again four times, and then they brought the language to the Judiciary Committee. My legal counsel went to Stephanie there with Mick Mines, who also is a lawyer. Is this worked out? Yes. Dean Epsom (sic), whoever he is, the NRD guy, said this is fine. So we incorporated it in our bill. I don't know where Senator Schrock was on General File, but I will tell you that I can read my opening back to you. I read what it did. It allows public/private partnerships; that's good. It encourages them. But it also says that developers shouldn't get rich selling \$175,000 lots on taxpayer expenses. Now Senator Loudon, does this make any sense to you, that we would use our tax dollars to build a \$4 million dam, and then let the private developer get rich and sell these lots for \$175,000 apiece, and you can't even go and put a fishing line in the lake? That doesn't make any sense whatsoever to me. We acted in good faith. The bill was introduced on General File. It was clearly articulated. I don't know where Senator Schrock was, but he never said anything, and I guess I just really resent the fact that here it is at the end. I don't know why Senator Schrock and Senator Mines couldn't work this out, but I can tell there's a personality conflict now. Both have their dander up, and both are holding poor old Pat's bill hostage. So I guess what I'm going to have to do, is I've got a number of amendments here to LB 1226, which is a water bill, and because that deals with water and this deals with water, I'm going to do everything I can. Number one, I'm going to pull LB 1113 if this amendment's out, and then we're going to have an extensive water discussion, because I don't think, Senator Schrock, with all due respect, you're acting in good faith here. You had your bite at the apple. Dean Epsom (sic), the guy from the NRD, or whoever he may be, why wasn't he at the hearing? Why wasn't Dean Epsom (sic) at the hearing? You know who was at the hearing from the Papiro? It was Steve Oltmans. He came and testified,