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to provide this kind of project. Senator Schmit keeps telling us that if we would eliminate the conservation fund, these projects then could be taken care of under the development fund and that is absolutely not so according to the existing restrictions we have put on the NRDs in existing statutes. So we have to keep the conservation fund if for no other reason for the enabling legislation to allow these kind of projects to happen. I think Senator Schmit really is going the absolute wrong direction of what his real philosophy is, what he wants to do and has told me time and time again and told us is that he wants to give the NRDs direction, that he wants to get them on track, that he wants to get them on the right road, that he is concerned about some of the areas they are becoming involved in and I agree and I think this existing statute does exactly that and I support very strongly Senator Marsh's motion to kill this bill. I think unless we kill this bill we will have created a greater mess than we have before we've started.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President, the Nebraska Water Conservation Act was passed in 1977. It was funded effective July 1, 1978. We do not have even one year's history yet. In the few short months, we already have 34,098 feet of terraces which have been completed which were not completed before this water conservation act went into effect. I believe sincerely that the Nebraska Water Conservation Act is a valuable conservation tool. The Carter Administration has just proposed substantial cutbacks in federally financed soil and water conservation for the second year in a row. This state program is needed now more than ever. The Nebraska Water Conservation Act must be retained. With your help this can be retained. Let's have some history before we take the drastic action which Senator Schmit is proposing. I am asking you not to repeal the Nebraska Water Conservation Act. I am asking for your assistance to indefinitely postpone this proposal.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator...no, Senator Marsh is still on.

SENATOR MARSH: I am still trying to find what I started to look for here, Mr. President. What Senator Schmit is trying to do away with is the following language, "The Legislature recognizes and hereby declares that it is the public policy of this state to properly conserve and utilize the water and related land resources of the state, to better utilize surface waters and to encourage groundwater recharge, to