

SENATOR BEUTLER: I am a little short on experience in this type of funding, John, but it seems to me that there are two parts of this that are perhaps unprecedented. I guess that is what I am asking you. Are these particular mechanisms preceded? One, if I understand the bill correctly, it is a Visitor's Committee that dictates and administers the expenditures of the funds and that the Board of County Commissioners has no say as to how those funds are spent. Is that correct or not correct?

SENATOR DE CAMP: I think that is the concept of this legislation. Now whether that is preceded or unpreceded, I sure would have to do research but it is an interesting question.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Are you personally aware of any other committee on that level or any other local governmental level that without the authority of the governing body of that political subdivision has the authority to spend tax money?

SENATOR DE CAMP: I am not just sure how all the mechanisms and things of like the Natural Resource Commissions work. Senator Warner is the real honest to goodness expert on appropriations and money and spending. I really think some of these questions would be better directed at him or Senator Marsh. She is on the Appropriations Committee, some of the others. They would really understand these things better than I.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Not only do we have a Visitor's Committee but the elected board really doesn't have a choice as to who they choose on that committee except to the extent that they have a choice between certain candidates of the Chamber of Commerce of one particular area of the district and the industry selections that are proposed so...

SENATOR DE CAMP: Okay, I think in answer to that this concept is the same as, for example, we get boards on water or something. We want to get people that have knowledge or whatever of irrigation, so on and so forth. Same concept here. You want to get people on that board that know something about what they are doing and about tourism, this kind of thing. Now there may be refinements that could be devised that would be better than this. I would sure be willing to listen to them.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I guess that is why I am asking in part. Is there flexibility on those two items?