

to do when, in fact, we have tried to shift to the NRDs more and more of the authority with water resource development and water resource management. I think this without this amendment runs counter to that effort and quite frankly if the amendment isn't adopted, I will not support the bill and I would encourage others not to as well because I think the point of the bill is good, that is they are doing a good job. Let them continue that good job and I agree with that. This amendment would allow them to continue the job they are doing and I think encourage them in that effort but it would not allow them to expand and I think that is a point that is very important. I don't think we need to see taxing authorities granted that aren't needed and I don't think we want to encourage subdivisions of government to tax more than they need and I think that is what this amendment tries to recognize.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Cullan, your light is on. Do you wish to speak to the bill?

SENATOR CULLAN: It is on the bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Sir?

SENATOR CULLAN: On the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay. Go ahead, Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: You are on the committee amendments now, aren't you? Do you want me to wait until the bill comes up?

SPEAKER MARVEL: Does anybody wish to speak to the amendments before we go to the bill as a whole? Okay, the Chair recognizes Senator Sieck. We are now speaking to the amendments to the bill.

SENATOR SIECK: Yes, I will still speak on the amendments to the bill. I would like to counteract Senator Wesely's actions here. He mentioned that Senator Maresh has in the past had several amendments here to reduce the mill levy. I want the body to know that this levy is taxed on the agriculture area of the groundwater districts. I also want you to know that if we wouldn't have the groundwater districts, the Natural Resource District would have to expand their board or their administration considerable to accomplish the same thing that this groundwater district is doing and I also know that the Natural Resource District and the groundwater district are working hand in hand. They are trying to coordinate their activities so that one is not duplicating the other. The Natural Resource District is having problems with the amount of money that is levied towards them and with the groundwater district operating they are able