

or not would have to have a permit and I think that would be ridiculous. I don't think that is the intention of Senator Beutler and I guess what I would really ask Senator Beutler to do would be now that we have got this matter discussed a little bit, if he would simply withdraw his amendment, I think it would be to the benefit of all of agriculture and all of the State of Nebraska. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President and colleagues, the logic of Senator Beutler's amendment seems to me to be very sound. It seems to me to be very prudent. It seems to me that if three thousand acre feet per operator depending on what that particular usage is is reasonable. Now I have heard people on this floor very recently lament the plight of the new farmer, the young farmer, the plight of the family farm. I think we are talking in areas of eighteen pivots, fifteen pivots. That is extensive developmental agriculture and I think that if we restrict drinking water fields, industrial usage fields and we are not curtailing. All we are doing is saying a permit. We are talking about massive withdrawals of water from the ground water that obviously in some areas of this state is in short supply. We are obviously mining it in some areas of the state, mining, irreplaceable, taking it out forever, and I think we have a serious problem in that, and I think Senator Cullan's bill is a good bill and I am going to support that bill, and I am also going to vote for Senator Beutler's amendment because it appears to me it is consistent with the intent of the bill. As far as Senator Haberman saying we are talking in two different areas, we are still talking about one thing, the usage of water, and massive withdrawals, that is what we are talking about. It is just as simple as that, and if it is good for the industrial sector, if it is good for the domestic sector, it is good for the agricultural sector.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Rumery.

SENATOR RUMERY: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I wanted to ask Senator Beutler a question, if he would yield.

PRESIDENT: Senator Beutler, will you respond?

SENATOR RUMERY: Senator, would you review for us the constitutional priorities on the use of water that has been observed in this state I guess almost since the beginning.