

going to support it, but at the present time you have not, because you are afraid, you do not have the courage to address the issue of how that water becomes polluted. Secondly, if you did have you wouldn't know what to do about it. Because you are not going to come out to my farm and regulate the amount of fertilizer that I can apply. If you did you would have to sit there twenty-four hours a day and seven days a week. If that were not enough then you would have to come out and watch the number of cattle that travel over an acre of land or over the pasture or over the corn field because cattle are also a source of pollution. And all be it, the goals of the bill are very laudable, and I admire and I respect your intentions. But I want to caution you because to pass the bill and lull the public into complacency about what we are doing in regard to pollution control of underground water is a disservice. I would like to ask Senator Beutler a question if he would yield please. Senator Beutler, does the bill in any way deal with the problem of pollution from fertilizer, chemicals, organic waste of any kind? Does it specify that?

SENATOR BEUTLER: The bill does not. I'm not sure that I understand the import directly of your question. If you are asking me whether it regulates the use of fertilizer on your fields, the answer is no, it does not.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you.

SENATOR BEUTLER: If you are asking me if it allows spacing requirements and some things that might help with the leaching of nitrates through the soil, I think the answer is yes.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Okay, you tell me how the spacing of a well might affect the leaching of water or nitrates into the underground, well spacing. How would that impact upon the leaching of nitrates into the underground water.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Schmit, I think that part of the problem has to do with the concentrations of nitrates in different areas. The groundwater aquifers under large areas. If you are doing a lot of irrigating in a particular area, then it is a possibility that nitrates are being leached heavily in that area and that overall the aquifer would be polluted. It doesn't. . . .

SENATOR SCHMIT: Does that mean that the more water you pump the more that you are going to draw nitrates into the soil, into the underground?

SENATOR BEUTLER: I think that it all depends upon how you are fertilizing.