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LB 224

SENATOR SIECK: Now this would be where the NRD would retain the property for its own use.

SENATOR BEUTLER: If they retained it for their own use?

SENATOR SIECK: Yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Then I wouldn't think any appraisal would be necessary since they are not going to be selling it.

SENATOR SIECK: And within the ten years they would pay back to the state (interruption).

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, under the original contract, right.

SENATOR SIECK: You would feel that that would be still in it?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, yes, my amendment does nothing with regard to the original contract.

SENATOR SIECK: Okay, I will support the amendment. I think it is a good public policy.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Schmit, do you wish to be recognized?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, just to clarify the situation a bit. The Legislature provided a mechanism whereby the Natural Resource Districts could purchase land in the event it was deemed to be the most expeditious way to handle the development of a watershed or to provide for the construction of these water conservative structures, it provided that they would be able to buy the land and it was supposed to be resold again and under normal conditions the Natural Resource District would not have any use for the land after the structures were placed upon it. I think that Senator Kremer and I have also discussed briefly the fact that perhaps maybe we ought to change the statutes to give the original owner the right of first refusal or some attempt to provide an equity for the basis of repurchase. At the present time the statute does not provide for that. It is impossible for the Natural Resource District to go back to the original landowner and say we have now constructed the conservation measures and we will sell it back to you for this amount of money or even for an appraised amount or that perhaps we can agree upon an amount. There is no basis in the law for that. If we wanted to look at that, that might be something we could look at. It might encourage some development that we do not ordinarily get, but at the present time, the Natural Resource Districts