

that argument as a smokescreen for saying, "No, we want to leave it like it is so the attorney fees not only will be sued but they have got to pick up everybody's attorney fees that come into the suit". Now that doesn't make any sense. This is a legitimate amendment. It is in response to a legitimate concern and I hope that you will give some consideration to voting for it. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, as I am prone to do, I think I will just lay her all out here on the table. Aren't we talking about the famous case out in Scottsbluff or wherever it was? Isn't that what it is all about, Petros? Huh? In other words, I am not sure Peter got stated the whole situation that bright and clear. There was a large award of attorney's fees as you probably all know involving a case, the Singleton case, or whatever the blazes it was, out in western Nebraska but that was only after, as I understand it, and I stand to be corrected if I am slightly wrong, that was only after they found the NRD was illegally taking the man's property and a jury all concluded that and gave him the proper amount for his property or what they deemed was proper and they gave him attorneys fees. Now I have mixed emotions on this whole thing. The way it is here obviously I don't think you can accept. Whether this issue should even be addressed in LB 375 is sure a separate question. I would submit that this is more a judicial matter. I guess I would almost suggest that it probably is not germane to the bill itself. You are getting into... it is really not into ground water. What it is into is the whole legal procedure, awarding of attorney fees, this kind of thing, and if we venture out on this limb, I guess I wonder how much further. So I kind of ask the Speaker or the Chair, is this germane? Have you had a chance to read it?

SENATOR CLARK: I haven't seen it yet but I will get a copy.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Well, I know Peter would never want to do something that wasn't just real germane, because I know his concern about that, and I just wonder if maybe the proper place for this isn't in a separate legal bill sent to the Judiciary Committee or something. Senator Nichol, do you have similar things in your committee on this subject?

SENATOR CLARK: Senator DeCamp, I would have to rule it is germane. It has to do with ground water management act. Senator Nichol, did you want to reply?