

February 24, 1982

LB 375

even a better handle on what our groundwater resources and reserves are to give the NRDs the kind of information and the kind of tools they will need to make intelligent decisions about how to allocate groundwater if indeed that is necessary in their area. And, of course, in many areas of the state allocation will not be necessary to preserve the agricultural basis of our economy in the next 20, 40 and 60 years. Mr. President, I would ask that this amendment be adopted.

SENATOR HEFNER: Senator Lowell Johnson.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: Mr. President, I would have a question for Senator Schmit.

SENATOR HEFNER: Senator Schmit, will you yield to a question?

SENATOR SCHMIT: I yield, Senator Johnson.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: Senator Schmit, as you are aware, I am sure, and some of the other members of the body, there has been some concern expressed in my own district that LB 375 might affect surfacewater appropriations. This is mentioned here in Senator Hoagland's amendment. And I would just like to ask you if it is your understanding that LB 375 does not amend or repeal any of the other provisions of Chapter 46, Article 2.

SENATOR SCHMIT: You are entirely correct, Senator Johnson, it has no impact upon those sections of the law which you are referring to.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: Thank you very much.

SENATOR HEFNER: The Chair recognizes Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, in previous amendments Senator Hoagland spoke long and somewhat eloquently about the necessity and the desirability of local control. He felt that was very important that the local districts have the ability to determine whether or not they want to go by the basis of the irrigated acres or actual acres. Now he turns right around and he says, local control is not any good, the Legislature shall mandate...the Legislature shall mandate that each individual Natural Resource District shall create a management plan. Kind of strange, Senator Hoagland, that you want it both ways. When it suits your