

March 15, 1982

LB 708

and I guess I just would be interested to see what that clarifying language is, Senator DeCamp, and I don't intend to hold the bill up at this point in time but would suggest that we do have some discussions about that issue over on Select File. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I...Senator DeCamp...

PRESIDENT: Senator DeCamp, will you respond?

SENATOR KREMER: I think Senator Vickers expressed my concern and also in Section 2, subsection 3 we read, "Geothermal occurrence shall mean an underground geologic formation in temperature higher than the normal gradient." How much higher? 2°, 3°? I think I'm a little concerned about that. I think we need to specify that you cannot use that, you know, as a vehicle to get water just because it is a little bit warmer than the normal and use it for another purpose in the long run but I think what you're proposing may take care of that but I am a little concerned about the language there when you say "higher than normal." What do you mean, 2°, 3°, 10 or what?

PRESIDENT: Senator DeCamp, will you respond?

SENATOR KREMER: Will you respond to that, please?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Senator, the geothermal expert we had there at the committee hearing flew in from, I think it was Colorado or somewhere, and...Yellowstone Park...we specifically wanted to put some language in there about a certain number of degrees and he gave a rather complicated explanation as to why this becomes a certain, a very complex and difficult thing and let me try to explain it this way, as I understand it. At different levels you have normal gradient, different automatic temperatures of water. We obtain this additional heat because this water has gone down and come up and we're getting the benefit of having gone down and come up and, therefore, it's that kind of water that stands out so substantially in temperature range that there is no question that it is "geothermal" but if you want to get additional language or clarification I can get with you and at least give you all the information that they brought to us as to why a specific temperature can cause you problems but if you feel that is necessary I'll sure be willing to get some information together and get with you, if that is okay.