

Groundwater Management Act when it was enacted in 1975 and that only negative vote was Senator DeCamp's. There were 40 votes for the bill and according to the reports that I received Senator Schmit didn't vote for the bill so he has never really supported the philosophy that is contained in the Groundwater Management Act and I think if you looked at the amendments that we've tried to make to the Groundwater Management Act since it was enacted you can see all those bills being opposed at every step of the way by...their philosophy has certainly been consistent but I think Senator Kremer in the way he designed the Groundwater Management Act and the people that worked with him, and there were several, but Senator Kremer's concept of local control over groundwater was genius. It is unique in the history of the United States. We are the only state in the nation that has this complicated and this type of a local control over resources. It is a brilliant bill and it is going to work. It is going to work if we carry through and if we are consistent with the philosophy that Senator Kremer started with and that philosophy is basically this. That philosophy is that the State of Nebraska is a tremendously diverse state and I'm almost paraphrasing Senator Kremer's floor debate when he said that the state differs so much from one region to the other that it is wise to allow the Natural Resource Districts to design their controls, not to have the controls designed on the state level. That is basically what Senator Kremer told us in 1975 when his Groundwater Management Act passed and I think Senator Kremer was right then and that is why I am supporting LB 726 because that same philosophy should continue. We should give the Natural Resource Districts the tools to design control for their local areas. Now this clause which allows the existence of a control area for subirrigation will not...

PRESIDENT: One minute, Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: ...will not work in some parts of the state. It will not work in Box Butte County. There is really no need for it in Box Butte County but just thirty miles east there is a tremendous need for it. That is the genius of the local control system which Senator Kremer forged through three or four years of torturous work, through three or four years of fighting reference fights with the Ag Committee over where these bills should go or moves at the last minute to bracket that bill. That's what Senator Kremer fought long and hard and he finally got it and now the Sandhills is asking, people in the Sandhills are asking for the same thing. They are saying, "Senator Kremer," they are saying, "Nebraska legislators, extend that philosophy. Let us share