

county power structure, it superimposes a provision that basically puts in the Legislature, in the Legislature itself, the power to designate a specific stream segment as important to the state and the power to fashion a management program, to approve a management program and a whole concept of protection. And if the Legislature chooses to do that in any particular instance, then the counties are bound to follow that direction. So what you have would be a double structure. You have the counties out there doing what they feel is appropriate within their counties, but at the same time authority is retained by the Legislature to approve a specific plan if the Legislature sees fit and that would be done through the ordinary bill process. So you say, why do we need this amendment? Anybody can come in with a bill any day. What this amendment does though is set up a process, set up a manner in which intelligent, by which intelligent information can come from interested parties, from local parties and from the Game and Parks Commission with regard to a specific proposition so that the Legislature has before it an intelligent measure with intelligent background information so that we can make an intelligent decision. How does the process start? It starts like this. Any group, any interested party can make application to the Game and Parks Commission to designate a specific segment of river as scenic river. However, the commission is not required to act upon that request unless 15 of us, 15 senators say this is something we want you to look at so that the individual petition has to be endorsed by a petition from the Legislature for review. And by that means, hopefully, the Game and Parks doesn't have to review just any proposition that comes before it. So once that proposition is before Game and Parks with 15 senators saying, yes, we want you to look at this thoughtfully, then they immediately must start formulating a plan, must start gathering certain information as set out in the amendment, must appoint a local advisory committee, must have that appointed immediately and must start consulting with the local advisory committee immediately and, eventually, after looking at certain criteria, come to a conclusion as to whether this specific segment of river is important enough to the state of a whole, as a whole, whether it's important enough to future generations of the state to say, yes, Legislature, we think that this should be preserved under certain designated protective measures. And then they would forward to the Legislature and there would be presented to you in bill form, a proposition identifying the stream segment, identifying certain relevant information about the stream segment, identifying protective