

Legislature, and that the Department of Water Resources periodically review that and include it into our legislative framework, and for that reason, I stand in support of Senator Hartnett's amendment.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Hefner, followed by Senator Elmer. Senator Hefner passes. Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. Chair and members. This amendment that was proposed by Senator Hartnett and Senator Horgan does have some very legitimate points therein that should be included in LR 27, mainly in recognizing that we have two bills that are significant in nature, which have passed this legislative body and have been signed by the Governor and will become law in September. That does have a good place in referring to the legislative framework we are going to work under, because they are definitely going to be part of our body of water law before the year is over. The sections that refer to pending bills that are within committees or still on General File in the Legislature, that definitely will not be addressed until probably next session, if at all, and when they are, will be modified greatly by the ongoing study that the Natural Resources Committee intends to conduct over the summer relative to municipal needs, conjunctive water use, and adjustments in how beneficial water uses are defined. But I don't think that it is really proper to include those bills that are pending, have not been passed, and that we are speculating upon whether they will be or not, in defining an existing legislative framework. On page 2 of Senator Hartnett's and Senator Horgan's amendment, the second and third sections of the "therefore be it resolves" have been modified, I think, to represent better what actually exists. As my amendment states that, in its original form that we are considering here, it states that the water board shall update this resolution as new laws are passed. Well, the Department of Water Resources can't update a resolution. Only the Legislature can, and in Section 2 it defines that. Section 3 also recognizes the fact that the Department of Water Resources is a part of this and recommends updates for this resolution from time to time in the future. And I would suggest to Senator Hartnett...is Senator Hartnett available? Would you yield to a question, Senator Hartnett?

SENATOR WARNER: Does Senator Hartnett yield? He does, Senator Elmer.