

for waterways, water resources, and so forth, would be the way that it would be set up. So we would take the first part of my original amendment and the last two parts of it is what the amendment does for the body. I am done.

**SENATOR WARNER:** Senator Rod Johnson, then Senator Horgan.

**SENATOR R. JOHNSON:** Mr. President and members, I rise to support the compromise amendment by the principal parties involved in this issue. It is important to note that while this is a resolution and a nonbinding resolution, that there has been much speculation on this floor as to whether a resolution in any form would convince the FERC folks to change their mind about the relicensing of Kingsley Dam. I think it is important to remember that there is as much to this issue dealing with perception by the irrigators, by the power generators, by the environmentalists, as there is with the content of the amendments and the content of the resolution. I am equally skeptical that the FERC people will automatically change their mind and relicense Kingsley tomorrow because LR 27 passes. But I think it is important to note that there are a lot of irrigators, in particular, out there who are waiting to see what fate holds in store for them as this issue proceeds. I will tell you, quite frankly, because I have committed to my committee members on the Natural Resources Committee, that we are going to do an in depth look at water law and water funding in this state during the interim period. If you've noticed, we have deferred almost all of our water issues this year to next year. That was by purpose. We recognized there was some pending legislation dealing with environment, on leaky tanks, on low-level, on solid waste that we could deal with this year, but there are a lot of issues that we could not deal with this year, principally water issues, where we just didn't have either the facts or the knowledge or the historical presence to be able to advance a lot of these bills. And more importantly than anything else, I think what is important to remember is that you can race ahead with public policy dealing with water or any other issue, and if you don't have the funding or the dollars to support those programs, you are not going anywhere. So I think we recognize that the funding was not available this year for a lot of either new programs or expansion upon existing programs dealing with water quality, in particular, so we deferred those, and I want to make it very clear that our deferral of those issues in no way had anything to do with LR 27. In fact, I have committed to Senator Hartnett, Senator Beutler, Senator Horgan,