

and others, who want to see some change in state policy as it relates to water rights, water funding, that we need to work on this, and I think I have the commitment of those folks as well as the other members to do some things this summer to really work at this in a very studious manner. I think we can do that, but it is going to take a lot of effort and a lot of time. And as I see it, LR 27 sends the message we'd like to see some things done but recognizes that there is a balance here. There is a balance between the need of irrigators and power people, as well as the environment and water users of other types, other than irrigators. That word is usually known as compromise, and I would send as strong a message that as we pass LR 27, which I expect we will pass today with this compromise, will send the same message that while we want to do things for the irrigators, for the power folks, we also need to recognize that compromise is the key word in this whole process, and I send an equal message to Central that we need to sit down, whether it is in my office, whether it is the Governor's Office, whether it is in Washington, D.C., somebody needs to sit down and start working at trying to solve this problem, because I am...

SPEAKER BAACK PRESIDING

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: ...disgusted with the level of litigation that we have had to go through with this issue, and the amount of dollars, ratepayer dollars, that have gone into litigating and litigating and delaying and stalling to a point where it just seems outlandish that we are spending this kind of money to litigate, when all the time we could have sat down at some point in time and negotiated. And I think you are going to see some things happen with water policy and our relationship with Wyoming in the next year that will prove that negotiations can work as well as litigation. It is my hope that we will be able to do that, and I hope we will be able to do it on this issue, as well as some other water policy issues that have as big an impact on the state as does the Kingsley Dam relicensing.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Johnson. Senator Horgan.

SENATOR HORGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. I believe now when we...if and when we adopt the Hartnett amendment to this resolution that we will have a suitable bill or resolution for this body to approve and undertake. In its original form,