

But then again I will tell you, let's be honest, let's all be honest, I won't vote for it, the bill, but let's be honest about what we're trying to do. If we're indeed trying to protect all the rivers in the state, let's do it up front, let's bring a bill for that specific purpose, have the hearing and let it stand on its merits. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Morrissey. Next speaker is Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I was hoping we wouldn't get to this point because I wanted to support the Conway amendment but I cannot support the Conway amendment because every substantive amendment that would have made the Conway amendment a reasonable structure has been rejected. Senator Lamb doesn't like the Conway amendment, I don't like the Conway amendment and it's interesting, the Conway amendment has confused the situation so much, but the bottom line is I think what it has always been and that is that control of this kind of situation should be first in somebody who wants to control, secondly, in somebody who can control. They do not want to control in the first instance. They've never asked, the Natural Resources Commission has never asked for this power. Secondly, they don't have the power to effectuate what they are purported to do. They don't have even the power to ask for an instream flow appropriation. They don't have the power to force the counties to do what they say they are supposed to do. There is no hammer in this bill. There is nothing in this amendment that will make scenic rivers work. Thirty-two states have scenic river designations and I don't know of a single one of them that has put it in control of the agricultural interests of the state solely and that's what we're doing. There needs to be some balance. The Conway amendment as it is does not balance anything. It could have, but it doesn't now and so I would just suggest that you reject the Conway amendment and reject the bill altogether. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members, I guess it's a little bit strange that Senator Beutler and I are agreeing that the Conway amendment should not be adopted. Well, of course, we are agreeing for different reasons. I'm thinking that the Conway amendment is wrong because it takes away local control. It does not let the local subdivision have some