

would not directly help them.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Well, it could help them. It depends on the level of which we would want to fund. They could...obviously a municipality can go to the NRD district, ask for assistance, and obviously the board would then have to decide whether to...to support that program or ask for state funding through this fund to help them address their water quality concerns.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: How about me as a private citizen. If I had a well that was suspect?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: I would assume the same policy would work for an individual as it would for a municipality...approaching the NRD for a cost share, so to speak, on doing some testing.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: And another question. Is there federal...is there any idea of availability of federal funds, or is this kind of a hope?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Well I guess you'd might say it's kind of a wish. But I'm assuming as more programs like the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, the FIFRA program, as those programs continue to...to grow and more emphasis, I think, is being placed on water quality, the potential is there at least for possibly receiving some state...or federal funds, to support whatever funds we may decide to put into the program. So, to answer your question, yes, it's somewhat of a hope, but it's one that we would not want to shut the door on in case there would be the possibility of some new federal funds that would be created.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: And could private funds be accepted into that fund too, if there was such an animal?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: You know, I can't answer that, Senator. I'm not sure. Since it's a cash fund, I suppose it's possible. I'd have to check on that.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Couple of other questions. One is if we...we have some pressure to subsidize Department of Health, I guess, for quality...water quality testing. Would we have a...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.