

Disability Act, a Clean Drinking Water Act, Subtitle D, they are all federal mandates, and if you think the feds are going to come in and excuse us from one or the other responsibility, you're wrong. They're all there, and they're all real. They're not going to back off. Now, Medicaid maybe this year we owe \$14 million. Well, Subtitle D, we've got 22 months to act. And I don't know if \$14 million will cover what's going to.. Subtitle D is going to end up costing this state. I don't think it will be a quarter of a billion dollars, some figure I heard bandied around here the other day. I don't think it'll be that much. But it will be a considerable amount of dollars that will be spent. Again, I'll emphasize, 25 to 100 person water system...that's...if you've got a small town out there, or a rural water system in your district that only serves 25 to 100 people, the increase price for federally mandated testing of SOCs and VOCs soluble organic chemicals and volatile organic chemicals, and you don't even have to have contamination, you just to have...have...they have to show that you could be contaminated, which is almost everybody in the state if you have any farming going on in your district or any sort of pollution, the costs will go up \$3,760. And then another six tests are going to kick in a little later. Two hundred and some bucks per test and I don't know, there are...some of them done quarterly, some of them done annually. Again, I'll emphasize what Senator Johnson said. If we indeed truly believe that clean water is a priority in this state, we best find a way to fund a program to address it. Because all these folks out there, whether they've got a little landfill that they should be closing and they can't afford, or they've got a little water system that they want to keep running and they can't afford to test, or it's nonpoint source pollution, or it's the question of...of how much the farmers are contributing to the pollution through chemigation or through the application of fertilizer, we best be ready to help on a statewide level to address the question of clean water. We can no longer sit here and say, by golly, clean water's important for me and my kids and it's the most important resource we have in this state, and then throw absolutely, or spend absolutely no money backing up that statement. Senator Johnson is offering a vehicle that will allow us to do many things...many innovative things in the future. And if you wait until the money is available, you might be waiting forever, until it is time for your children or your grandchildren to say, gosh, I wish...I wish Uncle Spencer or Grandpa Spencer would have addressed this back in...way back in 1990, because we got a big problem today. I'd urge your support of this program.