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acceptable, and that is that he who causes the problem must clean it up. Of course, that will also be transferred to the solid waste problem, the unlicensed dumps, and all the rest of the problems which we face in future years. But, at this time, I would have to oppose Senator Beutler's amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Senator Rod Johnson, you wish to speak to the Beutler amendment.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam President. The question that Senator Beutler raises is, I think, a philosophical one that this Legislature will have to address. And Senator Schmit covered a number of, I think, points that I would like to make as well. The points that Senator Beutler raise are that, one, we need to not punish the landowners or the producers who might be contaminating, but at least to let them know there were economic consequences for potential pollution of the groundwater. That runs in face of what the committee amendments basically do, which is to recognize that there are groundwater quality questions or problems in this state, and that it is best to spread the cost to all the citizens within that NRD district, to help bring about a cleanup of that problem. And I guess that's the choice you have to make here today is either go the direction that Senator Beutler is taking you, which is to try and develop some economic incentives, so to speak, on the groundwater problems, or in the case that the committee chose to do was to spread that cost out so that everyone participates in helping cleanup the groundwater. I guess I'm not looking for, personally speaking, not looking for blame, or not looking for a smoking gun. I guess what we're looking for is that we recognize that a groundwater problem exists, an SPA is then established by the local NRD, and cleanup should begin at that particular point, or farming practices, or whatever, are changed in that SPA area so that we can alleviate the potential problem that exists there. So, at this particular point, I will not support Senator Beutler's amendment. I guess I feel more comfortable spreading the cost among the entire district rather than a select few who might be living within that SPA region. First of all, I think Senator Coordsen raised a valid point. Even at 3 cents, depending upon the boundaries of the...of an SPA, it's very unlikely you're going to raise all that much money to address what usually are very costly problems of cleaning up groundwater, or setting up alternative programs to alleviate the groundwater problems. So, in my thought at least, it is better to have a broader taxing base to raise what we hope