

tune with the times, it is out of tune with the people of the state, and you're in danger of getting a proposition on the initiative ballot that will be much harsher and probably somewhat unreasonable compared to what this Legislature can and should do. This amendment, this committee amendment...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...if that becomes the bill and passes in this Legislature, you will have totally absolved the people who, in all probability, caused the pollution. And you will have taken away from the NRD the flexibility of deciding who did cause the pollution and assessing the costs accordingly. Right now under the law they can look to the 2 cent special protection area levy and say, yes, we're going to apply some of this levy because you people cause the problem. And they can say, ah well, the City of Beatrice caused part of this problem, too, so we'll have a general levy for part of the costs of the special protection area. That option is there under the current law. But if you pass this bill then there will be no option to assess in one place or the other, or to allocate the assessment, it will have to be a general levy of the NRD.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time, Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. The dispute here, in some small way, and by the way, I am not making disclaimers as to sources of pollution. What I am saying is that we have not, as yet, been able to well define point source solution (sic) like a smoke stack in a factory, it's fairly easy to define. The effluent discharge from a manufacturing process is fairly easy to define. Much more difficult when we're looking at groundwater. I think it's important that we do everything that we can to not only protect from the past, but enhance for the future the quality of our environment. But to cause a select group of people, simply by geographic location, and remember that in SPAs, from preliminary talk at least, the people who reside and farm in those areas are going to be restricted in some way from using optimum production practices in that you might be restricted in the amount of nitrogen based fertilizers that you could use, because of an