

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Robak.

SENATOR ROBAK: Call the question.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Robak, there is no one else wishing to speak, so I'll recognize Senator Schrock for closing.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Madam President and members of the Legislature, some good questions were asked and I would answer Senator Horgan by saying that an error in judgment was made last Wednesday and that will not take place tomorrow. This was a bill drafted by my staff for my constituents. It was not a bill drafted by Central and we wanted to keep it that way and in consultations with some other people we made an error. Central should have been there. They should have had people there who could have answered your very pointed questions which needed answers, no question about it. And some of those answers cannot be explained in the way I'd like to see them explained. Some errors in judgment were made. I think it should be noted that Central is probably the only entity in the state that has had to fight these water battles for the protection of Platte water for the irrigator for our area of the state. They have the most junior water rights on the Platte River. When water gets short it's the farmers in our area that are going to run out first and the focus of the district is water. It's not power. The focus of the district is water. So that's why it's kind of hard to explain away what took place. But it's amazing to me what the district has done in the past 15 years with their rehab project. Probably if they would have left the old district run as was, let the leaky canals keep leaking, don't do any fixing up, the water rights would be in order. Probably wouldn't be a problem, but what they have done is they have reconstructed the project. It's almost a new project to say. They have put in more than 250 miles of lined canals, 78 miles of pipeline and 87 miles of unlined canals which have been compacted. A statement by an irrigation firm who has evaluated 50 irrigation districts in the United States says that the Central District is probably the most efficient water delivery system of any district they have evaluated in the past 30 years. They have stated that it's probably the most efficient delivery water system they have seen of any district they have evaluated in the past 30 years and they have evaluated about 50 districts. So some good comes with the bad and it's hard to explain some of the things that