

going to have it, it would naturally...actually we already have a state water plan, don't we? I thought we voted on that by resolution last year. Oh! In any event, we will have one, and the Department of Environmental Control, or the Natural Resources Commission, or those two agencies working in conjunction are the natural, and logical, and historically the agencies that we have depended upon and who have the expertise to deal with the question. I've asked several people what the logic of putting this with the Department of Agriculture is, and frankly there is no logic but political influence. I think it's the feeling of some people that they will have some kind of greater political influence on the Department of Agriculture than on the Department of Environmental Control. And I don't think that's the right reason for structuring government and incurring the costs of government. If that is the problem, then maybe we need to look at the Department of Environmental Control and ask what's wrong. If you don't like the way things are being regulated, what's wrong? Frankly, in my opinion, especially with the new director, the Department of Environmental Control is doing an excellent job, especially in light of the expanding scope, the rapidly expanding scope of the duties that this Legislature and the federal government have imposed upon it. So I'm anxious to hear the arguments on behalf of the Department of Agriculture, because I just simply don't see what that side of the argument is. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Elmer, did you wish to address the Beutler amendment?

SENATOR ELMER: Yes, Mr. Speaker, thank you, and members, there is very good logic to have a cen...if, in fact, we are going to have to state administer a FIFRA program, that the lead agency be the Department of Agriculture. You look at the mechanics of how the FIFRA act would work. It has some inspectors that go out and see that the FIFRA law is being administered properly; that is, the proper forms are being filled out, that the labels are being applied properly, and that the applicators of these pesticides and herbicides are licensed to apply them. It's very much like the Weights and Measures, to see that the scales are...are accurate, that the gasoline pumps are accurate, that the elevators are using the proper measurements for moisture. It's a regulatory program that is involved with agriculture in its main aspects, to see that the regulations are being followed. The Department of Agriculture has the personnel in place to do these kinds of things, that's what they're