

the event that one NRD goes to the Director of Environmental Control and says, we have a problem and we want to do something about it, will you study this, and look at this, and decide whether we need a control area, we want you to also look at this in our adjoining NRD because, unfortunately, groundwater doesn't follow political boundaries, it's all over the place. When you have a problem on one side of the road, you're probably going to have a problem on the other side of the road. And if the political boundary runs down the road, you have an insolvable problem, under the NRD system, unless this amendment is attached; an insolvable problem. The only thing you would be doing by rejecting this amendment is to put off the inevitable and make the NRD system an unworkable system. So I would encourage you most strongly not to take the advice of Senator Moore on this particular occasion.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Coordsen, you're next.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I'd like to walk you backwards, just a little bit, in this particular section. And it says the hearing to designate a control area may be initiated by a district. This doesn't come from the top down, it comes from the bottom up. And then it goes on to say, let's see, if the district has reason...the director, and this is after the original request has been made, has reason to believe that an area other than that identified by the district should be considered, and if that, to paraphrase just a little bit, includes other districts, then a notice of the hearing that is going to be held shall be published in all the other districts. And those districts are given the opportunity at that time to present their information as to why they should or should not be included in a multidistrict control area. It's my belief that Senator Beutler's amendment really doesn't take local control away, with one exception, and that exception being that if there is a number of districts in a control area, one of those districts would have the potential, under current law, to stop a groundwater control area from being formed, in spite of all of the other requirements for bottom up determination and a burden placed on the director to ensure that every district is brought into the process of determining the value. So I really believe that if we leave the Beutler amendment in, it certainly will not hurt, and might well help in encouraging the formation of groundwater control areas. So I would encourage the retention of the Beutler amendment.