

with, and recovering beneficial use by public water suppliers, then if I could take the liberty to jump over to the bottom of page 7, Section 46-2109 starting with 17 says...

SENATOR BEUTLER: I'm sorry, Senator, where are you?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Page 7 in the green copy.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. What line?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Starting with 17 which says each natural resource district public supplier and the Game and Parks shall conduct studies to identify specific stream segments which the district supplier commission considers to have a critical need for instream flows. Then jump ahead to say, and they may request the assistance of the Conservation and Survey Division, University of Nebraska, Natural Resource Commission, Game and Parks and so forth. Now to me, as a neophyte this could run into enormous costs and I notice there is no fiscal impact written on the bill, but to me as I read your amendment and even as it's reduced in scope, your proposed amendment that we're actually dealing in, even though it is reduced in scope it appears to me that there could be an enormous amount of money necessary as required by this study. And I would ask some comments on that because it looks like to me we may have a bigger fiscal impact on this, not talking about the philosophy only, but simply the fiscal impact could be quite heavy.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. I think that there will be a fiscal impact, Senator. I think that the fiscal impact...am I on? I think that the fiscal impact will be entirely upon the municipalities that are seeking this right. It will be their job to present the evidence to the Department of Water Resources that shows the interconnection between the natural stream and the wells and to the extent that Soil Conservation or any other state agency might be involved, that's purely if they want to be involved. I mean, you may request it, but I don't think there is anything in the law that says they have to join in on any such study and of course if they don't have the money to do it, you and I both know they are not going to join in. If you would like something to further clarify that, that would be fine although I think the present language leaves it optional for them. They can participate in those studies if they want, but I think that practically what is going to happen is that every city is on its own and they will have to come up with the money