

February 13, 1992 LB 338A

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Yes.

SENATOR ROBINSON: I see you have in here a match of 25 percent from the NRDs. What kind of money are we talking about?

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Johnson, just one second, please. (Cavel.) Colleagues, please keep your conversations down so this can be recorded. Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Senator Baack and Senator Robinson, it's difficult for me to speculate on how much we're talking about because we haven't identified any money at this point in the program, but it would depend on the project that would be involved. If it was a water quality project in a particular area of the state, that particular NRD would be involved in a...whatever state money would be involved, they would also contribute 25 percent to the program.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Don't some of the NRDs have water quality departments or whatever you would want to (interruption).

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Well, we...we can establish water basically SPAs, which are special protection areas, for water quality purposes. So, yes, in effect, they do have that power.

SENATOR ROBINSON: I can't hear you.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: I'm sorry.

SENATOR ROBINSON: I'm sorry, Senator Johnson, but I can't hear you, I'm sorry. It's not your fault.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: The NRDs do have the power to establish SPAs for water quality purposes if, in fact, there is a problem with nitrates or other contaminants in the water. There is only one that I'm aware of that's been established in the state at this point but they...they do have that power, Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: And you're sort of inferring here that this would be seed money and then that...

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: I would envision this program to be more supplemental to what the NRDs are doing, providing some state funding match to support whatever programs, in this case an SPA