

washing cars, those manufacturing uses would be considered in their rightful appropriation and that would be weighed against the demands of irrigators in other parts of the state perhaps in how much water municipalities would collect...be able to get, taking into account what use is being made of their water. Would that...is that...circularly stated correctly? (Laugh)

SENATOR BEUTLER: I think so, but I...I would like to make a little longer answer in order to be sure I'm not misinterpreting your question.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Proceed.

SENATOR BEUTLER: But the granting of the water right would be for all of the municipal water supply...water supplier's uses in all different categories, but if the time should come when there is not enough water for all purposes, then the preference system would go into effect. So if there were, for an example, a junior to the city, let's say the City of Lincoln came in in 1992 and got a water right and in 1994 some irrigator also then got a water right, in a time of shortage if that junior irrigator needed the water, under the preference system, they could come to the City of Lincoln and say that portion of your water which is not used for domestic purposes, they couldn't get the domestic water because that's the highest use, but for that portion that is industrial and other uses that junior irrigator can exercise its preference to take that water. Okay? And that's the reason that, again, some of the rural interests asked that, in applying, the percentages be set out. Now those percentages would probably relitigated again in the event that there was an exercise of a preference, but the junior irrigator could exercise the preference.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you. That's what I wanted, maybe perhaps more for the record than anything. I wanted to know if I understood it correctly and that is one of the concerns I have felt and have heard expressed here on the floor and I guess I am comfortable with that explanation. Perhaps others will have questions, but I wanted to understand that better. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Schrock, followed by Senators Withem, Schmit and Nelson. Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Madam President, members of the Legislature, I