

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Bromm. Senator Vrtiska wishes to announce that the following guests are visiting the Legislature. Sarah Donovan from Peru and her mother, Nancy Donovan, from Lincoln are here under the south balcony. They are the sister and mother of Nate Donovan who is in Senator Beutler's office. Will you please stand and be recognized. And Senator Cudaback wishes to announce that Luann Zastrow, Dave Zastrow and Allison Zastrow, all from Lincoln, are here under the north balcony. Will you all stand and be recognized, please. Welcome. Senator Vrtiska, your light is next.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Madam President and members of the body, I'd like to ask Senator Dierks a question if I could, please.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Dierks.

SENATOR VRTISKA: I was going to ask Senator Jones but I didn't...I see he's there, but anyway, Senator Dierks, first of all I have to tell you that I voted this bill out of committee with some reservations and I guess some of those reservations are coming to light, but one of the questions that I wanted to ask you because you touched on it and that is, in your own honest opinion, do you really think that this bill is going to do that much more in the way of preventing the taking than the legislation or the statutes that are now in force? And if so, how do you address that, how do you justify...? That seemed to be one of my problems that I've had with this bill since I first heard it.

SENATOR DIERKS: I suspect, Senator Vrtiska, that it's another tool in the armament that we need to protect citizens and citizens' rights.

SENATOR VRTISKA: But in answering that do you, would you agree that there are, in fact, protections in the statute now that in fact are supposed to do exactly what we're trying to do? And I say supposed to do.

SENATOR DIERKS: I think you said it right.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well then that brings up my question, in fact, if they're not doing, if they're not in fact doing what they're supposed to be doing, would you conclude that passing this kind of legislation would send a message or would it just be another