

first passed, we have given the NRDs various powers. And the usual way that these powers are structured so as to enable them to manage for ground water quantity or ground water quality is to say identify your problem area, declare it a management area, or a control area, or a special protection area, those are the three types of areas that can be declared under current law, produce a plan that people can see and vote upon with identified controls, and then, NRD, we will allow you to manage the system in our area; we are willing to work cooperatively to do that. So what does 108 do? It gives the NRD one more power--to declare management areas to do an action plan. And what it says, it simply adds the language that, in addition to conflicts between ground water users for the quantity of water, and in addition to problems of quality of water that exist in ground water alone, the one more power we're going to give you is to declare management areas and formulate action plans for areas where there are conflicts between surface water users and ground water users. Okay? Follows the same pattern that we've been following all along to resolve our problems but simply...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...gives the NRDs one more power. It's a little more complicated, in this case, because we can't just say form an action plan to cover most situations. What we have to say is you need to do a joint action plan. It has to be joint with the Department of Water Resources. Why? Because all through our history, and it's built into all of our statutes, the Department of Water Resources has been the regulator of surface water over here, and the NRDs have been the regulators of the ground water. So now what we're calling upon them to do in 108 is to formulate a joint action plan, and DWR will then implement it on the surface water side, and the NRD or NRDs, if there are more than one, will implement it on the ground water side, and the management area then...

SENATOR CROSBY: Time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...will have two aspects with respect to the regulation.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Before we continue with this debate, I'd like to call...to welcome some people...some guests of Senator Witek, 26 fourth graders from