

doing these things is being able, for the various bodies around the state that have the expertise, have the knowledge, have the experience to be able to deal with these types of information. One of the things that the natural resource districts specifically requested was, in this process, to be able to request and receive help from the Department of Water Resources in consideration of these types of conflicts. Next question. Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Yes.

SENATOR ELMER: In your area, in your district, do you have people who are surface water users?

SENATOR DIERKS: I'm sure I do. I can't point one out to you right now.

SENATOR ELMER: Are there irrigation districts that provide water for surface water users in your district?

SENATOR DIERKS: I'm not aware of one.

SENATOR ELMER: Okay.

SENATOR DIERKS: There may be one...there may be one over in Knox County that I'm just not aware of.

SENATOR ELMER: Are you aware of any potential conflict in your district, between a surface water user and a ground water user?

SENATOR DIERKS: No, I'm not.

SENATOR ELMER: Then what possible harm can your district anticipate from a bill that is intended to solve disputes...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR ELMER: ...between a surface water and a ground water user when there are no surface water users in your district to create a conflict?

SENATOR DIERKS: Oh, I think there are probably some individual water users but there are no water districts, Senator Elmer, and I think that these are the reasons that the ground water users