

SENATOR DIERKS: Senator Hillman suggested that she's...she knows that the NRDs in her area are very capable and they know the issues and they do an excellent job of controlling the problems that they have out there. And I would have to agree with that. I think they're very capable and competent and able to control the problems they have across the state. And so I guess I'm wondering why we should...I think she wants to diminish somewhat what this legislation, 108, and other people do, too, diminish the powers that the NRDs have and abdicate those powers to state government. And I...that's one of the big issues that I find that I have a problem with here. I think that we know how we like to have local control, we just have been accustomed to that. All of us in the farming and ranching community know what it's like to be able to control our own destiny.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Time.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Dierks. While we have a moment, Senator Beutler, you'll be next. But while we have a moment, I'd like to introduce guests of the Legislature, guests of Senator Schellpeper and Senator Robinson. We have 35 seniors from the Wisner-Pilger High School with their instructor. They're in the north balcony. Would you please stand and be recognized by your Legislature. Welcome to the Legislature. We are talking about LB 108, which is the conjunctive use water bill. Also, for the record, I believe they're not here at this point, but we had visitors, guests of Elaine Stuhr, and we want to make sure that they're in the record so that Senator Stuhr can at least show them that we did recognize them. There were 20 fourth grade students from the Lutheran school, St. John's, in Seward. And we certainly want to, if they can even hear at this point, we want to thank them for visiting the Legislature. Senator Beutler, you're recognized at this time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Question.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Question has been called. Are there five senators? I do see five senators willing to support that request. Question is, shall debate...shall the debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record,