

March 21, 1996

LB 1114  
LR 206

CLERK: Senator Beutler, AM3878. (See pages 1423-24 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Withem, members of the Legislature, I hope this is appropriate attachment to this, to this particular bill. This is part of the work we did with the Revenue Committee on the 206 committee work, looking at the different institutions within our committee jurisdiction. One of the things we ran into were weather control districts. The amendment's being passed out to you, but essentially all it does is as of January 1, 1997, it eliminates weather control districts. These types of districts were...the possibility of creating them was put into statute some time, I think, early in the 1980s, there has never been one created. And so far as we know, nobody's seriously thinking about it. They do have an ad valorem tax ability, and so we're simply getting rid of weather control districts to eliminate one more taxing authority. Probably the best way to go at this particular kind of thing is through an NRD anyway rather than creating some kind of separate district because that's what we just tried to get away from in the 1970s when we consolidated all these districts into NRDs. But in any event, that's the purpose of the amendment, trying to be helpful, not harassing the bill. I've a couple more amendments that are along those lines, but I hope we can move quickly with them one way or another. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I was just going to briefly concur the adoption of the amendment on the basis that it was also consistent with the LR 206 and in addition, I don't know of any worthy purpose they serve. I can vaguely recall, Senator Beutler, when one of these kind of things were talked about and we were going to see clouds. Was this, wasn't part of that, was it? It seems to me that was going to be...well, if it doesn't rain pretty quick, I might change my mind, but for the moment, I would be in support of the amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Coordsen.