

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Madam President. It looks from the flurry of activity like there's an amendment pending fairly, fairly closely, so that's what my light was on, for conversation this evening, Madam President. I was listening to the...to the discussion on the grandfathering issue as reflected in Senator Wickersham's amendment and a thought came to my mind of how precious sometimes water is viewed in the agricultural community. We had the opportunity down home to put in...there was a state highway was going to be constructed in one of my counties, and the NRD and the Highway Department got together and decided they were going to put in a road dam. I think some of you that may have traveled in the country are familiar with those where they build up a road fill and impound water behind it. And the landowner, who was going to be impacted with losing about 40 acres of pasture, said, well, okay, he said, I'll, I'll go along with that but one condition, I've got this 40 or 50 acres of land that I'd like to put up a little center pivot, and bear in mind, this is part of the country where there's no ground water, no irrigation, so I could water this 40 acres and raise some extra feed for his purebred cow herd and little stability. Well, when the NRD board decided they had to make the final decision on that, the irrigators on that board decided, oh, blank no, because if he irrigated 40 acres out of that, that would cut the price, that would increase the supply and cut the price on the crops that they were raising. So the board didn't go along with the, with the road...with a cooperative effort with the Department of Roads in creating the roadside dam. And I think that little story, and that's a true story, but it indicates how narrowly defined a lot of thinking is on both sides of the water issues. Maybe it sounds a little silly, but that's the way it works. I, you know, I look at 108 as being somewhat more philosophical than anything because, as all of you know, there is no ground water where we are and every well that's been drilled, every water appropriation has lessened the, lessened my opportunity, yet the value to the state of Nebraska is immeasurably more than what the loss is to me, so we all come out. I think, Madam President, I believe that there's probably an amendment ready. Is that right, Senator Wickersham, if you'd respond to a question?

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Senator Coordsen, I have signed an amendment, others have signed an amendment. If the Clerk winks