

know, in the end I always feel good about it in one sense, and that is that the process itself has a tremendous educational effect. And given a little time, things do come to be understood by the public. And once understood, if agreed to, if found to be sound, they are inculcated into the culture and into the very society and fabric and being of the people, and they are held there, and things work in this country because of that. I don't mind anything in this amendment primarily because I am supremely confident that this is all going to work out for the benefit of everybody. And most of all the agricultural communities, I think, that this will be a good additional tool out there for the use of the agricultural community to resolve their conflicts, to stabilize their systems, and to bring all into the community of users. The second part of Senator Dierks' part of the amendment, having to do with the registration dates and the appropriation dates, I take that as a matter needing no interpretation, that the language is clear on its face, that it says that these factors...that these shall not be a factor in determining whether a management area shall be designated or a joint action plan prepared. It was never our intent, I believe, that they should be. There is absolutely no harm in making that crystal clear. Beyond that I don't know that there's much worth at this point in philosophizing or further discussing this amendment or the bill. At 8:47 in the evening conversations tend to get a little less scintillating than earlier in the day. So I think with that, perhaps we should just stop and invite questions and see what you all think of the amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Klein.

SENATOR KLEIN: (Microphone not activated)...Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment. I like the idea that we're phasing this thing in. Don't need to talk much more about it. I will support it and I will support the bill with it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Klein. Senator Bromm.

SENATOR BROMM: (Microphone not activated)...and thank you. This seems like kind of a winding down process of what has been an intensive scrutiny of the water law in the last two-plus years. And I'm glad to see it come to conclusion in this fashion. I want to thank...I want to thank Senator Dierks and all the others who've worked to try to effect this compromise.