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capping of water wells. In the state of Nebraska, we only have three thousand oil wells, but we have tens of thousands of water wells, and everybody would admit that we have thousands of abandoned water wells that are not being plugged. Even though the NRDs have an incentive program that each year takes care of a few of them, on a larger scale there are literally thousands of abandoned wells out there that are not being properly plugged. And they should be, because already in this state it's a criminal offense not to plug an abandoned well. Notwithstanding that, I think the fact of the matter is that there is fairly massive ignoring of the law in the state. I think that's just a fact. I don't think it's disputed by any persons, for example, in the NRD system who tend to know where wells are and the condition of those wells. So it would seem to me appropriate if we had a "Water Well Plugging and Abandonment Trust Fund", just as we have an oil one; that it would be appropriate for the Natural Resources Commission to administer that fund, because they work with the NRDs and that would be the system that we would use to take care of abandoned water wells. The fee I reduced from 200 to 100 dollars per year because it costs less to plug a water well, anywhere from 300 to maybe over 1,000 dollars, depending on whether it's a domestic well or an irrigation well. And I left the provision in exactly as is in this bill that it would only pertain to inactive wells. So it would be a fee on inactive wells that have been inactive for two years or longer. And we would allow the Natural Resources Commission then to set up the rules and regulations that would collect the money and plug the wells in the event that an owner or operator did not fulfill their obligations to do so. So, I'm glad this bill came along. I've indicated to Senator Matzke that, if this amendment's not agreeable to people or to him, that...that I would withdraw it. I think that's only fair to Senator Matzke. But I couldn't help but bring this to your attention because it is a problem, and if this kind of solution is appropriate, and I think it is for the one problem, it would seem to me even more appropriate for the other problem. In the one case, the seriousness of the matter, in terms of an oil well, is a little greater in that you have pollution coming up from underneath as well as coming down from the top. But, on the other hand, the number of wells involved indicate a greater problem with our water wells, because there are literally thousands of those out there, tens of thousands of them, not