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extend that fertilizer tax. It seems to me to be the most appropriate vehicle for funding the kinds of measures that the NRDs need to do in terms of water quality issues and protection of our groundwater and all of the consumption of that groundwater that we do, either through our food, indirectly, or through the drinking water, directly, that we do. The tax on the fertilizer seems to be most appropriate because, as Senator Beutler said earlier, it is from those pesticides and probably the fertilizers, as well, that we get the runoff that goes into the water stream that creates the problem in the first place. So to be able to utilize a fund source that comes from the cause of the problem seems to me to draw a direct correlation and be the most appropriate vehicle to be able to address the problem. Once that's done, those funds are utilized, again, at the local level to address the problem. So you have local funds, in effect, coming through the state but going back to the local level, being controlled at the local level by local elected officials who are the board members, the board of directors of the NRDs. Those folks make the decisions in how those funds are expended to deal with the water quality issues that the NRDs are faced with. It seems to me to be something that should have support and should be able to draw support from this body in terms of suspending the rules, as well as then the adoption of the amendment. Whether that proves to be the case or not remains to be seen, but in terms of the mechanism, it seems as good an approach and as most directly involved as one could get. So I appreciate the amendment. I appreciate the effort that Senator Beutler is making in trying to help the NRDs, and this vehicle is probably one of the most appropriate to be able to do that. I would hope that others among us would also see it that way, would hope that those who perhaps are not currently on the floor and dealing with other issues would be listening and would see it that way also. With that, I will conclude my remarks and thank the body for listening.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Preister. Senator Beutler, you're recognized to close on your motion to suspend the rules.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator (sic) Maurstad, members of the Legislature, I think I have now presented all of the ideas that I had wanted to present to you, and I don't understand, at this