

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

March 30, 1999 LB 822

how do we do that in such a way that it's not onerous, that it results in our being knowledgeable about what's happening with the problem that we're addressing, and we react in ways that are appropriate for whatever the appropriate situation must...may be in a particular area. That is all that the amendment does. The federal government, generally speaking, especially until recently, with regard to nonpoint source pollution, has relied upon the state government to act. The federal government does prohibit the use of certain kinds of chemicals that have proven to be...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time. Senator Beutler, there are no further lights on. Did you wish to close?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes. The federal government has prohibited the use of certain types of chemicals that are highly detrimental to the environment. We've learned from experience, over time, that certain chemicals that chemical companies would propose to use may be more dangerous than others and some are prohibited. But those that are allowed to be used, if not managed properly, can, over a period of time, be seriously damaging to the environment also. And that's why we have developed in the state a whole series of management plans in the NRDs to deal with nitrates, which is our biggest problem, currently. So, having said that, once again, the main thrust of the amendment is to be sure that the department monitors these streams on some type of basis, to some degree, once every five years. That's the main thrust of the amendment. And it has more to it in terms of making recommendations, but it doesn't require anybody to do anything, except talk to each other about what the problem is. It requires identification of problems and discussing of problems among those interested in solving the problems, and that's it. It's a very limited amendment, but it deals, I think, realistically with what we need to do if our true intent is to be sure we have a handle on the protection of trout streams. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. The question before us is adoption of AM1068 to the committee amendments to LB 822. Those all in favor of the amendment please vote aye; those opposed vote nay. Please vote, if you wish to. Record, Mr. Clerk.