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divide the resources up, the \$2.3 million, based upon the number of irrigated acres that generally people who have declared themselves to be experts in the field of ground water and surface water contamination with nitrogen, have claimed that that's where the greatest chance of danger is. Well that was not an acceptable solution. But we had, in effect, said that we would find the resources, because we believe in the environment also. So what we did, as Senator Dierks indicated, was grossed up last year's fertilizer tax money, which meant that all of the NRDs in Nebraska would have available to them, with the current budget...General Fund budget lids we have, the resources to use for the same sources, and perhaps same reasons, and perhaps coming from even a better mechanism. One of the interesting things about the fertilizer tax is that it only applied to a portion of the fertilizer use in the state of Nebraska. And that was the portion that was applied to the fields that grow the various and sundry crops that Nebraska is famous for doing. What was never taxed for the purpose of ground water quality was that fertilizer, and it's a substantial percentage of the fertilizer, that was applied to everything from residential lawns, to golf courses, to cemeteries, to wherever they were used, in many cases probably creating a larger percentage of the nitrogen-based fertilizers in the runoff, because it's a simple function of a large amount of concrete, it's not a condemnation, it's just the way it works.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR COORDSEN: But by doing it in the manner that we did, I think we provided the same amount of revenue. The same people, because of our valuation process and how the taxes are raised are going to pay essentially the same amount of money, if not even more money than what they have been paying through the fertilizer tax. And I believe it will be the more acceptable means of addressing the problems with surface and ground water contamination, not only, not only from nitrogen-based fertilizers, but from some of the other sources that may exist and some of the other substances that may exist out there. So thank you, Mr. President, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Wickersham.