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FLOOR DEBATE

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crop, what you're planting that year. You do deep soil probes of how much nitrogen is left over, and that they don't have the expertise to do that. But it would be done many times or probably every time by a certified agronomist or the University of Nebraska, and then they would go to the NRD and have them stamp that they approve of what that is, and then they would have some force behind it and some penalties that they could back that up. So if we have some bad actors, that we could do something about it and stop that. And if we don't do that, we all are going to pay for it. So I urge you to support the LB 93. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Kremer. Any further discussion on the advancement of LB 93? Senator Schrock, you're recognized to close.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I wanted to tell the body a few things that's going on out there in rural Nebraska when it comes to agriculture production. The NRDs are finding out that where center pivots are being used versus gravity flow, whether it be pipe or open ditch...and I'll talk to you, if you want to hear about siphon tubes sometime, I'll tell you about siphon tubes...are are finding out where the center pivots are being used, the nitrate problems are diminishing. Center pivots are a great tool for applying water, and unlike gravity irrigation, you don't overapply, you don't leech the fertilizers and the chemicals into the ground water. And they are finding where center pivots are being used, the problems are becoming less all the time. Also with center pivots, you have the ability to apply fertilizer through the water during the growing season when the crop needs it, not beforehand, and you lessen the chance for leeching of that fertilizer, depending upon the soil type you have, of course. For a lot of soil type, that is not a concern. But they've become a great tool for agriculture and they are helping with our nitrate contamination problems. I'm a farmer. I have five grandchildren that are drinking the water. I'm very concerned about what's going on out there, and I don't want misapplication of fertilizers on anybody's farm. And I will tell you that the majority of the farmers, I would say as high as 98 percent, are trying to do what's right, and most of them want the NRDs to