

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

February 3, 2003 LB 31

of work on wells and we didn't get a good answer, but we think the number might lay in the area of about a thousand people. And, of course, if you're in a small community and the person regulating the well is not allowed to keep track of that well, it becomes a financial hardship. So this would allow a probationary period for those people who are taking care of the wells, and I don't think it's a problem. But, basically, the bill becomes a cleanup bill after the amendment.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, I do have committee amendments from the Natural Resources Committee. (AM0037, Legislative Journal page 315.)

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Schrock, on the committee amendments.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, the committee amendment eliminates a sunset provision and increases the water well registration fee for the Water Well Decommissioning Fund by \$10. The change allows the Department of Natural Resources to maintain its efforts to keep the water well database updated, simplifies the internal accounting procedure, and retains the intended funding source for both Water Well Standards and Contracts' Licensing Fund, and the Water Well Decommissioning Fund. Last year, this Legislature enacted LB 458, whereby the funds necessary to update a water well registration correction came from two sources: one in the Natural Resource Department; one in Health and Human Service Regulation and Licensure. The amendment replaces the funding mechanism. Right now, if you drill a well and the gallonage is less than 50 gallon per minute, the fee is \$60. That would increase to \$70, and the other \$10 would be used to keep the data updated and to keep track of our wells. If you drill a well over 50 gallon, which is basically an irrigation well or maybe a municipal well, the fee is \$100. That would be increased to \$110 and, there again, the \$10 increase would be used to keep the data on our wells in this state. Any questions, I'd be glad to try and answer them.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Schrock. You've heard the