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FLOOR DEBATE

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areas to diminish runoff of soil in those areas. So this would be an added use of the Soil and Water Conservation Fund. If you have any questions, I'd be glad to try and answer those. With that, I'd give my time back to the Chair.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Bromm, members of the Legislature, Senator Schrock, this is a far-reaching bill, with all of the different provisions you have in it right now, and I hope people think worthy of some considerable discussion. And I suppose the logical place to start, even though I'd like to back up to the whole bill, would be with this provision. The Soil and Water Conservation Fund, would you describe for us where that money comes from in that fund currently, and what it's currently used for?

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Schrock, will you yield? Senator Schrock, will...

SENATOR SCHROCK: Yes, I will respond. I'm going to have to do this from the top of my head. The Soil and Water Conservation Fund can be used for practices on farms. I've seen NRDs use them for some things that I thought maybe are even inappropriate, but anything that could be used to conserve water or soil. I've seen them use Soil and Water Conservation Fund to "re-gate" gated pipe. I've seen it for terracing. I've seen it used for surge valves, which makes irrigation more efficient. And so...flood control issues, anything that would lend in the practice of diminishing runoff of water during heavy rainstorms. I can get more detailed if you want, but I don't have the information in front of me right now.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. And I'm just in the process of jogging my own memory about how these things work. If I'm remembering the fund correctly, it is a General Fund

SENATOR SCHROCK: Yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Would you agree with that?