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FLOOR DEBATE

March 2, 2004

LB 962

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But I think your answer is a lot more to the point. That's all I'll ask Senator Schrock. Members of the Legislature, sometimes in a farming area or in a farming economy, different methodologies do have to be employed. But I doubt seriously that the main thrust of this bill is to encourage or push farmers to be more efficient and to grow crops or livestock or whatever they're going to grow that would make more economic and financial sense, in other words, to be a habit breaker and a better practice maker. But that's my opinion. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. (Visitors introduced.) Discussion of FA1516, Senator Beutler, followed by Senator Stuhr, Schrock, and Loudon. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature. Senator Schrock, on page 99 of the bill, starting with line 17--and I'm skipping ahead a little bit here, but I wanted to remember to ask you this question for sure. It talks about the development of an integrated management plan. And down towards the very bottom of the page it says, during the first increment--that is, it's suggested that an incremental approach be taken by an integrated management plan, and that during the first increment, whatever that is, the department and the affected natural resources district shall also pursue voluntary efforts, subject to the availability of funds, to offset any increase in streamflow-depletive efforts that occur after July 1, 1997, but were caused by groundwater uses initiated prior to that date. What is that saying, Senator? Is that saying that...is that a provision authorizing the purchasing of water rights? Is that what that's for?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schrock, would you...?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Senator Beutler, it could, but I don't see it stating it explicitly. But I suppose you could interpret it that way.