

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

February 7, 2006 LB 874

when you change the law to say that you're not talking about merely detecting the presence, but you have demonstrated a harmful effect on human beings or the environment, you ought to be able to see the difference. You ought to be able to see the difference. And if the state has an obligation to protect the public's health, how are you weakening the law if you say, once they determine this threat to the health of the public, they shall do something about it? I say, by my amendment, leave the law alone, because we all, if we read it, will understand that the mere detection of a pesticide in ground water or surface water may not necessarily mean that there's a threat to the health of anything or anybody. So what you say in the present law is, if that detection is made, you may impose more rigorous management practices, but you don't have to, because they may not be called for. But when you change the law, and the law says that there has been a demonstrated harmful, it is an unreasonable adverse effect, you're not in the realm of speculation anymore. You know that the harm is there. It's like saying,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...if a house has fire hazards, the fire department may look at it and they may not, but if the house is afire, the fire department has an obligation to respond and put out the fire. What Senator Kremer and his ilk want to say is, when you find the fire, you may put it out but you don't have to, and if you require that it be put out, you're weakening the law. What kind of sense does that make? Maybe in an insane asylum it makes sense. Maybe I'm the only one sane here. And I'm not going to become insane to go along with these crazy people. I'm the standard. I'm the paradigm. You should try to become what I am. I'm not going to become what you are. And if that makes you angry, I do not care, because I'm just a little cranky this morning, k-r-a-n-k-y. And when you substitute a "k" for the "c" which starts a word, that is for emphasis.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Time for what, Mr. President, me to be quiet?