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FLOOR DEBATE

February 28, 2006 LB 508, 822, 1164

compromise with the Department of Natural Resources. Section 2 and 3 incorporate provisions of LB 1164, dealing with replacement wells. It allows that an old well being replaced, it can be converted to a monitoring, observation, or a livestock well, or other nonconsumptive use of less than 50 gallons per minute. This conversion must be approved by the natural resource district. It also shortens the time frame from one year to 180 days to properly decommission a well or convert it to a new use. It allows districts to further define replacement wells under the Groundwater Management Act, and to restrict consumptive use. It requires a municipal water well to be commissioned...decommissioned within one year after the completion of a new replacement well. This bill advanced unanimously by the committee. Sections 4, 5, 6, and 10 incorporate provisions of LB 822, Senator Kremer's bill, that would allow a licensed pump installer to wire pumps and pumping equipment at a water well location to the first control. This is an existing source of electricity. It eliminates the need to have two people present--a pump installer, and electrician--involved in installing a new pump or repairing a pump in a well. It also allows the breaking of a seal of a water well to be carried out by a state electrical inspector in order to inspect the wiring that pump installers complete. Also contains a clause that nothing in the State Electrical Act shall prohibit a pump installation contractor or pump installation supervisor credentialed under the Water Well Standards and Contractor Licensing Act from wiring pumps and pumping equipment at a water well location to the first control. This bill advanced unanimously, and would end duplication. Section 8 and 9 contains the original provisions of LB 508 as discussed on General File. There are no changes to that bill by this amendment. LB 508 would allow the districts to provide at least 60 percent of the cost-share of up to a maximum of \$500 for water well decommissioning. I would appreciate your consideration on this amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Open for discussion on the Schrock amendment.
Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President, members. Would Senator Schrock yield to a question or two, please?