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mined this morning to a degree. Now we really are not arguing about the use of water here. Senator Kremer cautions me, and Senator Syas cautions me and justifiably so, about the necessity for doing something now. Well, Senator Kremer, I have followed you before many times. I do not regret it, but I've followed you down the path that lead to the creation of the natural resource districts. We had to do it now, it had to be done. I had not seen the many benefits which were promised from the creation of those natural resource districts. I do believe, along with you, that we will sometime find those benefits which we envisioned. I do not see them at this time. What we are talking about here this morning are dollars and cents, not gallons of water, buckets of water, or numbers of wells. We are talking about economic values. Senator Lewis had proposed that if the water level reaches a certain critical point the drilling be stopped. Senator Bereuter has said perhaps it would be more advisable to regulate the amount of water that could be pumped. Now then the question arises under the Bereuter amendment. Suppose a man has invested \$40,000 or \$50,000 in a system. Suppose that a critical area has been declared and that the director determines there must be limited. Then is it the wisdom of this Legislature to say that even though that investment has been made in good faith, the water is there, it is still there. In the opinion of an individual it is depleating at an unnatural rate that individual shall be allowed to pump his well two, three, four days out of seven. Well how shall it be determined? The impact is going to be far greater than we recognize here this morning. It's like telling a man, Senator Syas, who works for wages there's not going to be enough work to go around so you're only going to work 20 hours this week instead of 40. It's as simple as that. It may be justified. It may be justified, but when we do that we are affecting the livelihood the economic resources of every piece of land, every acre of land, in the State of Nebraska. Now we have been cautioned about the depletion of water. I want to say one more thing. Water cannot be destroyed. You don't destroy water. It's not like a fossil field that you burn up. Water is a reusable resource. You pump it out, there is some recharge. We do not know, we have asked. We do not know what the recharge rates are in certain areas. we do not know how much water is used by the crop. We have estimates but we have no scientific facts. The natural resource districts are doing some work in this area. I suggest they will be much wiser a year from now than they are today. What we . . . and Senator Carpenter sat over there for six years while I was here and said what we do today we can undo tomorrow. Well I want to point out that what we do today, barring action on 123 to the contrary, we very rarely undo, we very rarely undo. The one criticism I have that is most . . . that concerns me most of the Bereuter proposal is that it means regulation. It means an extreme amount of regulation eventually. It means determination by individuals who are perhaps not necessarily directly involved.