

terraces and such, and basically what this bill does, from what I can read, on the surface, is that it basically extends to the Natural Resources Commission the authority to determine what it is they want to fund through this conservation fund. I guess I am wondering, I guess, Senator Lamb, if you would want to answer, what is the real purpose behind the bill and what is the intent of the Legislation? Where is there the need for striking that language and delegating that authority and could you explain that for me please?

SENATOR LAMB: Yes, Senator Wesely, part of the reason for the bill is that in some areas of the state there are not conservation practices spelled out in the bill which are applicable to those areas of the state. Therefore, those areas can not use the money. The money is allotted to an NRD in a certain area and the sandhill area is one example where some of these structures are not. . . are not applicable and they need the permission to use that money for other soil conservation practices such as, for instance, seeding blowouts or something like that. Prior to this time they, the number of practices has been so limited that they just could not use the money and so this broadens it so that all areas of the state will be able to be flexible enough it will allow enough flexibility that every area of the state will find practices that are applicable to the area.

SENATOR WESELY: One of the questions then is the reason, I know that the language is very restrictive in here, but is one of the reasons perhaps a set of priorities as to which conservation needs are greater and the feeling being that perhaps the areas that are now covered have greater need than those that are not and wouldn't this perhaps change some of those priorities in terms of effective use of our resources or is it just a matter of some restrictions that aren't related to. . . where we could most effectively use our resources?

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Wesely, I believe those practices that will be used are left to the Natural Resources Commission to be carried out by the NRDs. I guess I just don't see a better way to do it. If we restrict the practices too much in the bill, or in the legislation, then those people that are out there know what the problems are are severely restricted in what they can do and in all probability the money will not be used to the best advantage.

SENATOR WESELY: Okay, I guess the point that I am trying to make and I understand Senator Lamb's response and I do recall now that the issue in previous years had basically been where the money was going and the money had not gone to the sandhills