

legislation, ground water quality water legislation out of the hands of the Legislature and put it into the hands of the Supreme Court and I think that we are beginning now, we are going so slow now on some of this water quality legislation, vis-a-vis, the feelings of the public that we are in danger of losing our prerogatives with regard to ground water quality legislation. And I think it behooves us to get in gear and do some meaningful things with regard to protecting ground water quality. We have dillied and we have dallied for seven years for the seven years that I have been in the Legislature on water protection legislation. We have effectively done nothing. You may remember a couple years ago we went through this big folderol about creating management areas instead of control areas because if we did management areas, then all the NRDs would jump and organize these management areas and we'd get started on this problem. The problem everybody told us was that control areas were too harsh, too harsh. The NRDs didn't want to do that, give them management areas. You know how many of them have created management areas in the last three years? Not a single one. We have done nothing effective with regard to water quality in the last seven years and the people recognize that and it's time for us to get started and get some things done and this bill is a good start and the chemigation bill is another good start and the nitrate bill is a third good start and all three of them should be done this year. They should be done. It's going to be much cheaper to get a handle on this problem now than it is going to be 20 years from now when all of a sudden the researchers at the University of Nebraska discover that 40 parts per million of certain chemicals cause cancer, then we start shutting down wells right and left and closing up irrigation in certain parts of the state. There is no sense in getting to that point. We all know that sooner or later, sooner or later we have to stabilize the pollution of the water. We have to stabilize the nitrates, we have to stabilize the gasoline content, we have to stabilize the whole situation. You can't keep letting your house get dirtier and dirtier and dirtier and not clean up because eventually you have to pay up. Much cheaper to get started now and I would advocate that you start with this bill. Move for its advancement, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question is the advancement of the bill. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.