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to deal with a problem that's arisen out in the Republican River Basin having to do with rules and regulations that are permitted by statute for the natural resource districts to do. There is an operation that is being contemplated in the Upper Republican NRD that is going to require a fair quantity of water. As you recall, the Upper Republican NRD is the one where we have permits for wells to be drilled that currently has a moratorium, and allocations of water that can be pumped from those. A particular entity is trying to circumvent that particular permitting and allocation process by drilling wells that are exempt, which are wells that pump less than 50 gallons a minute, and then installing a number of these and manifolding them together so that they can get the volume of water that they require without having to go through a permit or allocation process. And this amendment would say in the rules and regulations that a district may...may put in, that they can say a district may require a permit for a water well designed and constructed to pump 50 gallons or less, if such well is commingled, combined, clustered, or joined with other wells to provide a common water source, and exempts out things that are installed for range cattle. The NRD in the Upper Republican is already promulgating such a rule but feel that they need some underlying statutory authority to do so. I think that this is something that we need to do to avoid problems with people trying to get around the conservation practices of the Upper Republican NRD, and a large majority of its constituencies in the agricultural industry feel its very necessary to preserve their water supply. And with that, I'd ask you to help me adopt this amendment on water wells to LB 1161.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Senator Elmer, there are no lights on. Did you wish to say anything other in closing?

SENATOR ELMER: I think Senator Bromm would like maybe a little bit of time here. I'd yield some time to Senator Bromm.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Senator Bromm.

SENATOR BROMM: I am sorry. Thank you very much, Senator Elmer. There are some concerns, I think this amendment has not been printed and maybe you've explained it as well as it needs to be explained, but would you mind yielding to a couple of questions