

bill. It would seem to the Chair that you should hold the debate until the time that the bill is introduced. I realize that that is difficult to separate out. SENATOR DeCamp, perhaps that will give some parameters to your remarks.

SENATOR DE CAMP: You are right MR. President, members of the Legislature, like he says we are not debating the bill but before the bill would be introduced I would want to know a little more information. In the few years that I have been in the Legislature this one bill will probably effect my district probably more than any other place in the state and probably effect it more than any other bill that has been involved in the legislature since I have been here. Ten or twelve years ago we had \$40 an acre land in a lot of Holt County in that area, and today that same land is worth \$400 an acre or better and it is almost directly, in fact it is directly the result of irrigation. Now as I understand it from the information that I have been able to gather, Holt County has almost the largest number of wells in the state now, and they are increasing rapidly. And so any controls that any legislation would impose on this would directly affect the economy of that area very greatly. First of all the question that I have is how would this affect old wells? You have said that it wouldn't regulate them, but, how would it affect them in terms of withdrawal or would there be any controls on the amount that they can withdraw from existing wells? So there would be absolutely no controls on an old well? Then what would prevent somebody from using an old well by expanding the size or varying the size of the pump so that they

(END BELT #5)