

and obviously we have people in this body who don't trust local control, that do not trust the local NRD directors. I don't know what the alternative is. The alternative is not to do it from the state, the alternative is not to allow the federal government to do it. Obviously, the alternative is if you don't trust local control, is to have no control. I think that is where the two lines are being drawn here today. You either have some sort of control or you have no control whatsoever. This section, being administered by local people through the local NRDs will never be used everywhere in the State of Nebraska. Most of the provisions of 643 will never be used everywhere in the State of Nebraska, because of our differences across the state. It would be ridiculous to assume that we are going to limit or that a local NRD would limit the spacing of irrigation wells in the areas surrounding Holdrege, Nebraska where the aquifer has risen 80-90 feet. Of course, they wouldn't do that. The NRDs are not going to use this indiscriminately across the state. I'm assuming, and I have never been an NRD Director, but I am assuming that those people get pressure from their constituents just like we do. It seems to me that if I were an NRD director, and I would pass a regulation restricting well spacing in an area of the district that I was dealing with and the local people in that area didn't want it, I think that I would feel the pressure and I think that I would feel it very fast. I think all you need to do is talk to some of the directors of some of the NRDs that do have control areas that are attempting to do something. This is the first year when the test is going to show whether it can work or not. But in the Upper Republican area if you had visited with those directors you would find out that it hasn't been easy. They can not put anything that they happen to want to in there.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have 30 seconds.

SENATOR VICKERS: The people wouldn't allow it. For us to sit here in this body and tell local people that we don't trust them to have local control, I think is being rather ridiculous. Then we should each ask ourselves if we can really represent the people that we attempt to represent if we don't think a local elected NRD official can represent the people that he is elected to represent. I oppose the Lamb amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, colleagues, a couple of questions of Senator Beutler please. Senator Beutler, I believe that you made a remark that the bill is to strengthen local control and authorities of the NRD. Is that not correct?