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uranium mining. It requires licenses to mine uranium and gives the Oil and Gas Commission authority to implement a mining code. It is my understanding that the Banking Committee has taken an energy bill and has gutted it pretty much and taking some provisions not totally dissimilar to this particular proposal and incorporated that into the bill but I think it is a major issue. I think it is one that deserves some input from the industry and, therefore, I would urge you to allow me to introduce this bill. We can have a public hearing on it and if the Public Works Committee deems it is appropriate we can expedite it or whatever committee it may be referred to, expedite it and receive consideration this year. There are some issues that I think need to be addressed in the near future because of the potential for uranium mining and particularly for uranium exploration that will occur in the near future. It is my understanding that there will be approximately twelve hundred exploration wells drilled in the Crawford area this summer so I think we need to set up a mechanism to ensure that the underground water supplies are protected during that exploration period and that is the reason I think that we need to move with some speed on this issue. I do not like to request additional bills this late in the session but I think it is an important item and that is why I bring it to your attention. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, there already is a bill as Senator Cullan correctly stated. I think it is maybe essentially the same thing, however, I think he has got a good idea, Public Works Committee hold a hearing on it. This uranium thing is very important. The more input and more information we can get the more we should so I would certainly support the introduction of the bill and work with him in any way at the hearing, so on and so forth.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I would like to object to the introduction of new bills at this point. If the Public Works Committee wants to have a hearing on this particular subject I am sure at Senator DeCamp's request that we would do so. Why we should introduce a new bill and go through the whole process for a separate bill, I am not sure. I do not think that there is an emergency in the first place. In fact, I would ask Senator Cullan if his industrial siting bill that we are dealing with this year probably doesn't address the well question anyway. At any rate, it seems to me that we are getting terribly elaborate here. If we want a public hearing on the question I am sure the Public Works Committee would