

held up in an attempt to find members of the Exec Board so we could have them commit themselves on the bills that are being processed today so we have to hold the group here until Senator Lamb gets back. Senator Schmit, you don't have any remarks?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, I have some but I didn't think I could give them to you. If you will let me speak, I will give them to you. It won't take very long. I just want to say one thing and that is I warned you before about the cost of litigation and the warning fell on deaf ears a number of times. I am warning you now. You are opening another can of worms and this is not a personal reference to Senator Beutler, because I know you are sincere in your efforts, but this is not a water conservation act. This is going to be the lawyers retirement act because you have already got that going in some instances and it is going to encourage further litigation. You will recall a year ago on a bill here when I tried and tried and tried to convince you that you were asking for trouble if you didn't pass the bill. You chose not to pass the bill, and as a result, the Natural Resource District was found wanting in court, had to pay a substantial judgment, tremendous cost. They don't have the money. They are going to be tapping the Development Fund to help pay that. We have got I think a million bucks they are talking about putting into the Development Fund this year. Ladies and gentlemen, it is not going to cover it. We are talking about trying to put fifty million dollars into the Development Fund and I am for it but you are going to get into litigations to the point where you absolutely accomplish nothing. It just doesn't make sense and I think you have to really look at it from the standpoint...Senator Vickers says I hope you have all this confidence in the local boards when the time comes sometime in the future. Let me say this, there are times when they are going to meet the responsibility, times when they are not, just as on this floor at various times we meet our responsibilities and sometimes we may not face up to it.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Schmit, your time is up.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you, Senator.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Beutler. Senator Beutler, the Chair recognizes you to close and we will give you some extra time since we gave extra time to Senator Schmit so the floor is yours.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity.