

sections or thirty-five thousand acres or anything else. I am a relatively small landowner in my area and I disagree entirely and I know it is a matter of philosophy but I disagree entirely with Senator DeCamp and Senator Schmit, the total acres would mean no regulation. You have got to understand that the total area contributes to recharge. Now if an NRD determines that there should be a total amount of water taken out of that and not any more then they can boil that down to how many acres there are in there. Now if you are a large landowner obviously you get more acres or you get more water. If you are a small landowner you get less. The same thing is true with irrigated acres. What it does mean is that if an NRD chose to do it, chose to have total acres, they could say that if you own a thousand acres you can get four inches of water per acre. Now that tells the farmer he can develop it wherever he wants to. It doesn't have to be in a certain area. It can be any place he wants to on his place. He can use it anywhere he wants to within that area but I think even more fundamental than that, what we're doing is making the decision for everyone of the twenty-four natural resources districts. We're not letting them make the decision themselves. We're making it for them. Sure this is the meat of the bill. This is exactly what the Valmonts and the Lindsays and the people that drafted this bill wanted, it encourages development. We talk about correlative rights. We like to jump on that bandwagon and that soapbox and say that we really believe in correlative rights. We believe in the right of the individual landowner to have the right to the water under his land. What about the individual that might be sixty or approaching retirement age and decides he doesn't want to put any wells in or any more wells in and a management area goes into effect? What we are saying is that the rest of the area around him can go ahead and develop and cut down the amount of water that he would have available or his son or the next generation that might operate the place would have available to them. So they come along five or ten years later and everybody else is developed. The amount is cut down so much because of the irrigated acres that they can't afford to develop anymore. We're taking their right away from them to develop their land. We're making that determination here.

SENATOR CLARK: You have one minute.

SENATOR VICKERS: My main point is that we have no right to be making that determination. If we're giving the local people through the natural resources districts directors the authority to implement the regulations to be out there on the front line, then we should give them