

February 24, 1982

LB 375

with the Chair's permission is to withdraw amendments 3 and 4 and go to amendment 5, and then that will be my last amendment today. I feel I have a responsibility to present these amendments that are advocated by the Natural Resources Commission and will just limit the debate to the three that I think are the most important if the Chair will allow that. So...I prefer, of course, to have all five adopted but evidently that is not going to be the situation so what I will just do is go to the 5th amendment and we can talk about that for a while if that is all right.

SENATOR HEFNER: Permission granted.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next Hoagland amendment is found on page 637.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Now again, colleagues, I would urge you to look at page 637 of the Journal where the purpose and the content of amendment number 5 is set out, and in this connection I would like you to look at the handout of the comments and recommendations of the Natural Resource Commission and you will see written in the margin there on the front page the language which...from which this 5th amendment is taken. Now let me just read what the Natural Resource Commission says with respect to the issue of whether each NRD should be required to develop management plans for its area and to attempt to ascertain the size of each aquifer in the area. "To implement this policy the commission recommends all Natural Resource Districts be required to submit groundwater management plans to the Department of Water Resources by a certain date and update them periodically. Plans could be based on the best information currently available. Development of a groundwater model would not necessarily be required. Provision will have to be made for financing the preparation of these plans." Now there are two problems as I see with the way 375 is written right now in this particular area. Number one, the plans are not mandated and number two, there is no financing provided to underwrite the plans. Now if we are going to have plans developed by the Natural Resource Districts that will truly set out the nature and extent of the groundwater reserves and the surfacewater reserves in their area, we are simply going to have to give them additional funding to do a good and competent job. So this amendment 5 not only mandates the plans but it also gives the Natural Resource Districts some additional funds so it will be sure that the plans that are developed are indeed worth it. Now again it is a local control amendment. Again, it is an amendment that will permit us to get