

there all the time is discovered to have a very beneficial use if it can be developed. In the case of oil it was there for millions of years but until man found a way to use it, it was just laying there. Coal, the same way. Nebraska has potentially one of the greatest natural resources energy sources just laying there that would accommodate about one-third in area size of the State of Nebraska, the western one-third of the state. Geothermal. Geothermal simply means that the earth, every foot you go down in the earth becomes warmer and if there is something down there that you can take out of very deep in the earth where it is warm, that has been heated up, in this case, a fluid called water, and you can use that, then you've got an energy source that you can use to heat homes, to heat businesses, do the very same things that you're using gas and oil, that you're importing from Saudi Arabia or Canada. But you've got it right here in Nebraska and it is pollution free. What we hope with this legislation is to establish for the first time, the fact that, hey, we finally recognized the source is down there. We're going to use it. We're going to use it. It is pollution free and would cost, hopefully, a fraction of what imported sources of energy are costing us now. We import 95% of all of our energy in this state, the most energy importing state in the United States. This for the first time gives us one source that will start developing that energy independence that a number of us have talked about and what the bill does is set up a system of giving rights for the use of this and that is what the whole amendment is. It comes from the Council of State Governments. A similar type of amendment or legislation has been now introduced and passed in a number of states and we learned some super interesting news over the weekend and it goes something like this. The question has been whether there is going to be water warm enough and in sufficient quantity to actually ever make this useable. Well some testing was done on a well and we found that they could get 15 hundred gallons a minute, they were worried about getting a hundred, at a temperature of about 186° which is more than enough. So the potential appears to be unlimited, far more than anybody ever dreamed possible and by comparison, these numbers I'm giving you, the famous development up in, I think it's South Dakota, the water is 156° compared with us at 186° and the quantity there was 350 gallons a minute. Here we're talking about a well that shows it could produce 15 hundred gallons a minute. So that is what the amendment does. It becomes the bill, sets the outline for developing our geothermal resources in this state and hopefully we will get some additional legislation to put some money into this program and hopefully we will for the first time in Nebraska start developing one of our major native natural resources, geothermal energy. Now let me address one thing that might be brought up. Senator