

incidental ground water recharge. The part that I am attempting to amend would put into place in the statutes a mechanism that would allow a district to apply that fee, of up to 50 cents per acre, for an amount of a particular number of years if it was agreed to by the district and the affected land owners. The reason I'm suggesting this amendment is because at the present time Nebraska Central Power and Irrigation District, the tricounty system in the central part of the state, is in the process of negotiating an agreement with some of the irrigators in that area. I want to make certain that whatever agreement is reached through that negotiation process would be allowed under LB 488. The second part of the amendment that I offer to you would set up a mechanism whereby a one-time fee of 50 cents per acre could be charged without having to go through the mechanisms in 488 whereby the district has to indicate the benefit or the amount of ground water recharge that has actually occurred under each parcel of land before they can assess the fee. The reason for this second part of the amendment is so that a district, and there are a number of the smaller districts out there who would like to get the appropriation protection under the ground water recharge mechanism and probably like to be able to get enough funds from the area that they would be getting the recharge...or applying the recharge to to pay for that application fee but would not necessarily need the funds every year thereafter. So, therefore, a one-time fee would be authorized under this amendment. Finally, the last part of the amendment would put in LB 488 the emergency clause. Again the reason for that is because if an agreement is reached between the irrigation district at Holdrege and the surrounding irrigators, the agreement should be able to take effect right away with the emergency clause. So I ask for the adoption of the amendment to LB 488, Mr. President. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Any further discussion on the Vickers amendment? If not, the question is the adoption of the Vickers amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Voting on adoption of the Vickers amendment. While we are waiting, Senator Goodrich has some guests in the north balcony. We have 40 junior high students from Joan of Arc School in Omaha, accompanied by their teacher. Would you please stand and be recognized. Thank you for visiting the Legislature this morning. (Gavel.) May I have your attention, please. Senator Vickers and I need your help a