

January 15, 1986 LB 894

rerefer LB 894. Senator Johnson filed his motion on January 13. It is on page 269 of the Journal.

PRESIDENT: Senator Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, members, I don't know how aggressively I'm planning on pursuing this issue because...

PRESIDENT: May we have order in the Chamber, please. (Gavel.) Senator Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: I have spoken with Senator Schmit about this issue, and the fact is I'm not contending the fact that this bill, dealing with underground water contamination, should be in Public Works or whether it should be in the Agriculture and Environment Committee. But I did want to raise the point of consistency, the fact that the Ag and Environment Committee does have a nitrate bill in the committee at this particular time. And I'm not clear as to the decision of the Referencing Committee to send a contamination bill to Public Works as opposed to the Ag and Environment Committee where generally most of the environmental issues have gone during the...at least during the course that I have been Chairman of the Ag and Environment Committee. But it is one of those issues where I guess when I filed the motion I was both upset at the decision of this body to take away the environment portion of the committee with the new committee restructuring, and also the fact that the Referencing Committee on that same day referred what I thought was an environment issue to the Public Works Committee. But rather than fight this issue we have a contamination bill or a nitrate bill sitting in the committee right now. If we want to deal with that question in the Ag and Environment Committee, I guess we can do that without having two of them. If the Public Works Committee would like to have this bill, and if they would like to address the issue in that committee, that is fine with me. But I hope in the future, I guess as the Referencing Committee goes through the procedure of referencing bills, that they will look at some consistency between where they have been sending bills in the past and where they will send them in the future. This all gets way back to the old issue of LB 284 and where it should have gone, whether it should have been in Public Works or whether it should have been in Ag and Environment. But I feel that in this particular case