

discussed this many times, the Upper Big Blue NRD and the Big Blue Conservation District have been working cooperatively dealing with a number of issues including nitrate issue. I think that this conservation district in York has been one of the leaders in the area of discussing and researching the impacts of nitrate levels in water and soil and I think that the Upper Big Blue has even written to this Legislature urging the body to extend the life of the ground water districts, especially the one that is working with the Upper Big Blue. So there is some disagreement, I think, among the NRDs as to whether or not conservation districts still serve a useful purpose. In this particular case I think they do and I think it would be a shame and deeply disappointing to me and to others that live in the particular area that is serviced by this conservation district to see that they would be eliminated at the end of this year. So, at that, I would just urge the body to advance the bill, extend the life of the conservation districts for another five years and then reevaluate just how good or bad the performance that they have been doing. In this particular case I can speak with firsthand knowledge as can Senator Sieck, that the conservation district working with the Upper Big Blue NRD has been doing a very fine job of addressing soil and water issues and working in a very cooperative sense with that NRD.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Nelson, please.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. President, I'll make this very brief. I only want to echo the same sentiments of Senator Johnson, and I, too, can have firsthand knowledge and I do wish for the body to consider extending this date. They are working very well and those people are putting forth a lot of effort and Senator Johnson said it very well.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vickers, please. Excuse me, Senator Vickers, before you go, Senator Beutler has a kill motion on the bill. Is anybody prepared to handle that? Senator Wesely. Do you want to lay it over or do you wish to...it's Rod Johnson's option to lay it over or take it up now.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, I would just move to lay it over considering that with only 15 minutes to discuss both the kill motion and then the advancement of the bill, I think we'd run out of time. So it's my understanding this