

supervised, and he probably will not be as well supervised, as will the application of chemicals through an irrigation system. I think also we want to remember that when you...if you were to adopt this amendment you are having an impact upon tens of thousands of acres of land throughout the State of Nebraska, and that the result may be adverse, it may well be adverse to that municipal water supply. I think that you want to remember one more thing, the DEC is a relatively new agency. The concern about underground water is a relatively new concern. But we are making progress. We've made a lot of progress. We are going to make some more with this bill and we are going to make some more with other bills that have been introduced during this session. So I would hope that we would not adopt the Eret amendment. Again, I'm not critical of Senator Eret. I know he's concerned. He has some legitimate expertise in that area. But I ask you to consider the alternative, and the alternative may well be a more serious threat to the municipal water supply than the use of a regulated, controlled, supervised type of chemical application. That is what we are shooting for with this kind of a bill. I want to point out again that the individual who uses this system is going to have to be trained, trained by the department or the Extension Service. There are some people who apply restricted chemicals. We all go through a certain training period. But this is an additional training program. I think that it is an additional protection for the municipal water supply and the residents thereof. I believe the amendment calls for any supply which serves more than 25 people. Well, you know there was a period of time when my family almost approached that in number. I would guess that you might find gatherings of people that might be similar in size in some of those other communities and that you might find additional impact other than the 525 incorporated communities of the State of Nebraska. I'd be glad to answer any questions you might have on this. But I want to add again the amendments that are included in 1655 are pretty well thought out. I did not object to Senator Lamb's amendment, although I agree somewhat with Senator Vickers, there comes a time when we say...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...you know, what are you being paid for. You are being paid to come to work, and now for every little additional job you are assigned you want additional money.