

and you will see a multitude of organizations working in this field. So you cannot say that Nebraska isn't leading the way. Now, I also know that in the Upper Republican we had a groundwater district and it dissolved just naturally. They decided that the Natural Resource District was the source. The directors on the groundwater district got discouraged and they said, we don't want to do it anymore. I suspect once we get this nitrate under control and the NRD does realize that, that same thing will happen in the Upper Blue. So I don't expect this organization to continue on forever. I think it is going to fall as time goes on. But at the present time they are doing a lot of work in this particular area and I think it is pertinent to the State of Nebraska that we continue getting that information because it is very important in our area. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Rod Johnson, and then if there are no other speakers, Senator Wesely may close.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, as I prefaced my earlier arguments, I will once again say this is a very important issue to a select few of us and I suppose to the rest of the body it is just one of those issues where you vote yes or no. But to those of us who represent those areas and have those farmers and irrigators in our areas, this is an important issue and one that I think is more than just another bill, another sunset provision. I think it is something that is much deeper and much more important than that and to pass it off as another issue that we simply want to say, well, we want to show that the sunset provision really does work and that we will indefinitely do away with the conservation district, I think it is a wrong message to send. We have had a lot of other sunset bills in this body that we could have done the same thing with, but we are not discussing the premise or the particular issue at hand and that is the work that this conservation district is doing for the State of Nebraska. It amazes me the people who are most concerned about the environment and the fact that we want to do some progressive things with the environment and especially water quality are the same people attacking this particular organization. Now, as I said, it is important to those of us who represent this area, it is important to those people who have been utilizing the services that the conservation district provides to us. I hope that you will reject the kill motion. It is amazing that a bill that came out on consent calendar could raise this much opposition