

PRESIDENT: Senator Eret.

SENATOR ERET: Mr. President and members, I would oppose this amendment. I think the fact that that conservation district operates as it does is they find the need for what they are doing. They are in an intensively irrigated area. They already do have the heavy expenses that go along with such an operation and that this small levy that they have is found as one tool that they have to optimize the agriculture in their area and also be able to extend a very conservative approach and concern towards maintenance of the ecology of the environment. So, again, I would oppose this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Vickers, you may close.

SENATOR VICKERS: Very briefly, Mr. President. I sense that there is a lot of folks in this Chamber that really could care less about this issue. But if Senator Sieck, Senator Johnson and Senator Eret's arguments are correct, then what they are saying is that some of the others of us who have nitrate problems in our area as well don't have enough money to deal with the problem and, therefore, we can't. That sounds to me like what they are saying. How can we deal with a problem with a levy limit of three and a half cents if they have to have four and a half to do it? Maybe they are going to come back in next year with a bill to give us more money, I don't know. But the fact of the matter is we are being able to deal with it. We do have the resources to do it because we are not trying to duplicate what we are doing. Now you can call it education, you can call it anything else you want to but it is duplication and we all know it. I urge the adoption of this amendment.

PRESIDENT: The motion is the adoption of the Vickers amendment to LB 124. Please record your vote aye or nay. The motion is the adoption of an amendment by Senator Vickers to LB 124. Please record your vote. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Record the vote.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 6 ayes, 8 nays on the adoption of the Vickers amendment, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The amendment motion fails. Do you have anything else, Mr. Clerk?