

long-term projects. If the potential is there to replace the director and the water policy, as far as funding is concerned, every two to three years because as you have a new Governor come in they will want to have different policies or it could be six or seven years at best if we had a Governor who served two terms. The fact remains that water policy is a very long-term situation. Most projects are maybe 10, 15, or 20 years in the making. And because of the need for continuity, it seems to me that a return to the system that we previously had would be desirable, and for those reasons I'd ask for an override.

PRESIDENT: Senator Landis. May we have quiet in the Chamber, please. (Gavel.) Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, boys and girls, it is time for the Governor to win one, don't you think? Now, it seems to me that we've had, in this body, a long run of policy choices from this institution and let's remember that it was just last year that we said the Governor was going to do this. We did the bill with a public hearing, but this year, with a very quiet day on Select File, an amendment was slipped into 778, notice given on the floor, certainly discussed, but not in public hearing, that we take this power back and stick with the NRC. It seems to me that we are reversing ourselves after only year's time. It is quite unwise that we should return to the policy that we went through, with a lot of consideration, a lot of floor debate, and a lot of public hearing, leaving this power with the Governor. So we should not reverse ourselves after this short amount of time. Secondly, in the area of water management and water control there is a great deal of fragmentation. There are a variety of institutions, and this simply entrenches that fragmentation. I'd suggest against it. Third, while it is important for some kind of planning to occur and continuity in planning to occur, that is true, planning that comes to nothing counts for nothing. We can plan ad infinitum. I, like you, probably have that same bookshelf filled of very long, thick, beautifully printed planning books. The question is, who has muscle, who has strength, who has direction to get action? It is the Governor's office, and for that reason if we want to turn those beautiful planning books into action, we need to make sure that we galvanize the Governor's office into helping us do that. You can't do that with the kind of fragmented planning process that we have that is as far away from the political process as the natural resources issue seems to be. I served on an NRD for five years. And the precursor to the NRD, the Soil and Water Conservation