

other groundwater users. But I recognize that they're...they're not sufficient. And Senator Schmit, your concern is...is well noted that here I am trying to make a bad bill better, and I'm probably enhancing the passage of it, and that's my problem. Should I not try to make a bad bill better, and then take the chance that it might pass anyway, or enhance the possible passage of the bill by offering amendments.

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR LAMB: I've chosen the route of offering some amendments, does not mean that I'm supporting the bill, but I do hope that you'll support this amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Lamb. We will now vote on the Lamb amendment to the Beutler amendment. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 5 nays, Madam President, on adoption of Senator Lamb's amendment to the Beutler-Wickersham amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Further amendments, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Nothing further pending to the Beutler-Wickersham amendment, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. I would like to direct the senators attention to the area under the north balcony. Special guests today of Senator Bernard-Stevens is Carol and John Townsend of North Platte. Would you please rise and be recognized. Welcome to the Chamber. Thank you. We'll now proceed with debate on the Beutler amendment. Senator Rod Johnson, followed by Senator Elmer.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Madam President, members, I rise, much like Senator Lamb and Senator Coordsen, with mixed reactions to this amendment. One, having not seen it until after lunch, and, number two, having the...being placed in a difficult position of trying to explain this amendment, if it is adopted, and it thus becomes the bill, trying to explain to the irrigators who have been calling me over the weekend, in fact I probably had 15 calls this morning on this bill from folks in south central Nebraska that are irrigators that are very concerned about the impact this bill would have on their particular operations. And