

agriculture, although it's had regulatory functions. So I think, in principle, in terms of what is being regulated, it doesn't make any sense to put it in the Department of Agriculture. In terms of expertise, will these people know what they're doing? Well, they know something about farming, of course, but their experience with chemicals, with the chemical makeup of chemicals, with the whole idea of pollution, with hydrology, with all the things you need to know about ground water in order to be reasonable and to be effective, none of this expertise is in the Department of Agriculture, none of it. We would have to start basically anew instead of starting from a base of expertise and develop a whole new subagency within an agency. You know, this is an interesting process today because most of you that I'm trying to talk to today would never be in favor of creating another overlapping agency the way this bill is if it were not in the particular context of a very tenuous political alliance that needs to be held together here at the moment or at least some people are trying to sell you on the idea that it needs to be held together. I hope you can approach this bill this morning with a degree of flexibility in your mind pointing towards what is rational and fair and what makes sense. This bill has been negotiated long and tediously...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...and happily from the point of view of getting agricultural groups together on it and in some small degree, more or less, I guess, some of the...some of the chemical dealers in on it. But, I guess, I would be interested in whether if any urban interests or any environmental interests have been invited in on the discussions on this particular bill. And I think we need to look at it today from a little broader perspective and I'm sorry I have not had an opportunity to deal with the Governor's office at more length on this. I thought that they were going to have some off-the-table, off-the-floor discussions on it, but I didn't hear from them till Friday and I'm...I guess, I'm being apologetic, in a way, for presenting to you a series of amendments on the floor. I usually...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time..

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...prefer not to do it in this manner but I've been caught short this morning. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Before we begin