

the rural areas and say, this is what you're going to do or not going to do with pesticides as far as their use is concerned in this locality. So this is building the NRDs back into the process.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Okay, thank you. I guess I would like Senator Baack's view of that. I don't quite read the bill as you've just stated, Senator Beutler, on whether the Department of Ag could come in over the...over the...come in over the top of the NRDs and I guess I would like a clearer interpretation because I don't quite interpret it that way.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Madam President, and members of the body, I don't interpret it that way either, Senator Wehrbein. The NRDs have not been shut out of the process. They actually have been involved with it all the time and I think that the bill has all the safeguards built into it that it needs. This is somewhat of a red herring, I believe, and I wouldn't...I wouldn't accept this particular amendment at this time. The NRDs have not been left in the cold. They've been involved all the time. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam President, I think the concept, I think, is fairly clear but this is not a red herring. This is not a red herring and I challenge anybody on this floor to quote for me out of this bill how it works other than how I've described it to you. I think those who say it's a red herring, those who understand the bill and say it's a red herring have the obligation to tell you how, in fact, this is going to work. And they're not telling you because it works exactly the way I told you it's going to work. There is no obligation to work with the NRDs. Practical experience would tell you they better work with the NRDs but there is no obligation to do that and there is nothing in here that says how you will do it, in what way. All I'm saying is that when you dealt with fertilizers in the past and when you dealt with all other contamination matters in the past you set out very clearly how it would be dealt with. You set out procedures and protections for the farm community. It's very elaborate how you set up a special protection area. You have to tell people what you are doing. You have to have public hearings. You have to go out and go through a process that