

say that with regard to the establishment of this plan that reasonably noticed public hearings are held in at least one location in all three congressional districts. Those two things are all it does, Senator.

SENATOR DIERKS: Well, I don't have a whole lot of problems with your second part of the plan, but I would sure have some problems with the first part and I can't imagine that you could have a three-agency directorship here without making some tremendous changes in the fiscal note and the responsibility of the plan and then actually in the support that the rural agencies have given for the plan. I think that if you do this sort of thing, you lose support from those farm groups such as the farm bureau and the livestock cattlemen, the Grange and the farmers union. I think that you'd have difficulty getting them to support this sort of amendment. I can't...again, I guess I'd just like to say that it's unfortunate that it is necessary for us to try and dismantle the bill in this fashion because I think the bill has been presented in an order that is acceptable and it has been accepted by everybody at the hearings. The committee accepted it and it looks to me like the bill is already in excellent shape and this kind of an amendment would probably dismantle the whole piece of legislation and provide us with nothing instead of something so I would urge that you don't support this amendment. Thank you.

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

SENATOR BAACK: Yes, Madam President and colleagues, this amendment, I think, Senator Beutler, we're getting into the same problem that we...I don't know if we were with that other amendment or not because I didn't understand it for sure, but this one I think that you are putting us in a situation where we're going to have difficulty getting approval by the EPA because you've got a lead agency, but now all of a sudden you're going to put two other agencies on exactly the same level. You really don't have a lead agency anymore. You've got to, because anything they do has to be approved by the other two. You've taken the responsibility from that lead agency and put it with three agencies and I don't think that they're going to approve something like that. I think that we run a risk of that and I think that the language of the bill talks about how they will cooperate with the other various agencies involved in the state, it includes a list of those. On page 12, it lists them out as which ones they will cooperate with. The department is going to