

the various commissions, the various other departments in the state. We do talk about all of those and the word is shall in there, it is not may involve, it is shall involve and they have to work with those people in developing this plan. One of the things that Senator Bromm mentioned that needs to be stresses again is we're talking about the statewide, the state management plan for pesticides and insecticides and rodenticides. We're not talking about the state comprehensive ground water protection plan. Those are two very, very separate entities here and there is a lot of confusion being created on whether or not, which one we're talking about. We're only talking about pesticide use. And I think it was also pointed out that at the hearing this was not simply supported by ag groups. I think that one of the groups, the Citizens for Protection of the Environment, one of those groups brought in petitions signed by like 24,000 people that they had circulated across the state. This does have statewide coverage and it does protect...this is in the interest of all citizens of the state because in the past we have gotten totally bogged down with some of these details and we have not passed anything in this state and I don't think that we have had the proper kind of regulation from the EPA in the past, that I think that by putting in control into the Department of Ag with the cooperation of the other departments and having them be involved in the process, I think we're going to have a better plan in place than we have now and serve to better protect our citizens in this state in the future as far as ground water quality goes and as far as monitoring of all of these different chemicals will happen. I think that that's what it does and I think that there are a number of places in here where it says the Department of Agriculture shall work with these other departments. It does not exclude those departments, but I think if we go about the process and put into place too many lead agencies here, we're going to run the risk of our state management plan not being one that can be approved by the EPA and that has...the statewide management plan for FIFRA has to be one of the key things that have to be approved by the EPA before we can get a ground water management plan, the total ground water management plan. This is only one piece of that plan. Let's not get it confused with the entire plan. This is simply one piece of that plan and that's what this bill talks about. It does not talk about the ground water management plan. So with that, I would urge you to reject the amendment. Thank you.

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