

CLERK: LB 789, I have E & R, Senator.

SENATOR HOHENSTEIN: I move the adoption of the E & R amendments to LB 789.

PRESIDENT MOUL: You've heard the motion to adopt the E & R amendments. All those in favor please say aye. Opposed nay. The E & R amendments are adopted.

CLERK: Senator Bernard-Stevens would move to amend, Madam President. (Amendment appears on pages 1236-37 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body, this amendment would simply clarify the Industrial Ground Water Management Act. It would clarify for definition of maintenance of turf for private, or excuse me, commercial golf courses and public golf courses. It would also say that any maintenance of turf, course or commercial, or, excuse me, public golf course would have to get a permit if they used more than 200 acre feet per year. Anything less than 200 acre feet a year, they would not have to have a permit. This is much tighter than it was in the past when it was 3,000 acre feet, and I ask for the adoption of the amendment and yield a little bit of my opening time to Senator Elmer.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens and Madam President. This issue has arisen through a silence in the statute governing permitting of transferring water from one point to another. It's specifically stated it can be transferred for some purposes, but lacking the authority or lacking the naming of a commercial use to a golf course, it's been interpreted by the Department of Water Resources that since it is not named specifically, they do not have the power to grant the transfer of permit. This is a very small quantity of water, would allow a golf course to drill a well, install a pipeline to its golf course and water its greens and fairways. And I would ask for your support of this amendment.

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