

hydrologists or...have been known to disagree with the fact that there will be a problem or won't. And that's...the reason...the thrust was mine, well, if there, in fact, became a problem five years down the road, especially in domestic wells or those that were using some in the neighborhood that have been there let's say for a 100 years, they would have some recourse. That was the basic thrust of this amendment, not to...if...obviously, if there was going to be some harm shown in the permit process, probably they would not get the permit. So this is an attempt that in case there was a mistake made, quote, that there would be some recourse.

SENATOR BROMM: Okay, thank you. Okay, my understanding is...I understand the intent of the amendment, and it certainly is an improvement over Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment, per se. However, the law in the state is you can't take water and transfer it from one basin to another, ground water. And for us to make a public policy that you can do that, unless someone can show that they're harmed, you can continue to do that without a permit, even if it's a small amount of water, is basically not...not good policy for us to establish. I think it's much fairer for the person that wants to transfer the water, when the general law is that you can't, for that person to have the burden of proof of showing that it won't harm anybody for them to do it, and to go through the permit process, than to simply give them carte...an open door to go ahead and transfer the water and make some other guy, who is sitting there doing nothing wrong, come up and do the hydrological study and go to the expense of showing that they should be stopped from transferring the water. I do understand the intent of what Senator Wehrbein is doing to allow a safeguard. But I think the safeguard needs to be one step sooner, and that is at the point where the person who wants to take the water has to come in and show that he's not harming anyone by taking it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Bromm. Senator Beutler, you're next.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to make one brief comment. Just to be sure that Senator Elmer and myself were on the same track here about what this amendment does and doesn't do. He spoke a little bit about transfers for agricultural or domestic uses, or livestock uses. This amendment does not permit that. This amendment merely says that with regard to