

about it. One of the...one of the...first of all, I have to say I'm not talking about the particular project known as Eagle Golf Course, whatever it is, I'm talking about the people in my district where there is a limited amount of water. And because these...because this bill, when it's passed, is going to impact the entire state, as I understand it, do you...would you...would you agree, or do you have anything to say about the use of a hydraulic (sic) study, hydraulic, hydrology study to be put back into your amendment in any event so that...you indicated there was a study made for this particular project, and yet the way the bill is structured nobody else would have to go through that, isn't that right?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: If they were under 200-acre feet.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Yes. Would...because I'm concerned about, not about this particular...I understand there is an economic impact, and I appreciate that. But what I'm trying to get at is in the area that I come from there is a very limited amount of water. And my concerns are if this very issue would develop down there and I'm not a geologist, I don't understand all of these issues about the hydrology. But, obviously, you don't...you...you object to the placing of an inclusion in there of some kind of a study being made prior to the putting down of a well and removing this amount of water from an area for use in commercial industry or golf courses, is that correct?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Yes and no, but my answer would take a couple of minutes, Senator, I don't know if you want me to take that much of your time.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Go ahead.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: And if you need more, my light is on and I can give you some of my time, Senator Vrtiska. What...one of the things, and I think Senator Beutler is kind of grinning now because he was hope...hoping the conversation would go this direction, which would take us away from the bill. But, in theory, one of the things that happened in the cases that have been put before the Department of Water Resources is that it was...it was ascertained that there were no provisions in statute for the transfer of ground water. And if that would be the case, in agriculture, and I think in the Sandhills particularly, where they've drilled a well and they have a couple miles of pipe going down to their stock tanks or