

mentioned in statute. And I would suggest that we would pass this bill with this amendment that was put on by Senator Bernard-Stevens and do the study that we're talking about, come back next year with a good ground water transfer measure and consider this little thing for these golf courses as a temporary stopgap until we get a wide-ranged statute that can fairly apply to the transfer of ground water all over the state in the way that we would like to see it done. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Elmer. Senator Bromm.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Madam Chairman. As a member of the Natural Resources Committee, it distresses me a little bit that we go to the trouble of having public hearings like we did and we did scratch our heads and we tried to do what was right. We tried to do something that would be workable for the golf course that instigated the legislation and yet provide some safeguards so that we didn't just create some bad public policy. Now, I guess, what we're saying is that the committee either had a bad perspective or the committee doesn't know what it's doing or I don't know what, but what the committee is proposing will solve the problem of the golf course. The only thing is they've got to go to the trouble of getting a permit. Now I suggest that we adopt the amendment, we move 789 on to Select File and in the meantime that Chairman Beutler, perhaps Senator Bernard-Stevens, whoever would be interested, I would be interested, we get together with Mike Jess and the Water Resources Department and we see if we can't make this permit procedure feasible and practical for those people that are going to need a permit. Now I don't think for those people that are going to use the small amount of water that it's reasonable to expect them to spend several tens of thousands of dollars and take six months to a year, and I think, hopefully, I think from the testimony that we had from Mike Jess, the Director of the Department, that he's willing to be workable on this thing. We just need to provide him the proper framework. If we scrap the committee amendment and we go with Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment, we are simply circumventing the Water Resources Department altogether. We should never even have taken the time in committee to deal with this thing and I think that's absolutely wrong for the process. I think we need to stay with the process and come out with good legislation that won't just help this golf course but that will serve other purposes for perhaps other commercial users and other golf courses around the state that have needs as well. So I urge the body to adopt the amendment and pass 789 onto Select