

Legislature to come up with a policy choice that would be better than this one and maybe one that would be agreeable to all parties involved. So my amendment strikes all original sections of the bill except for the sections that deal with providing some standards for organic growers in the State of Nebraska. This idea was brought to us by Senator Sieck in another bill. His idea was incorporated into LB 1016 and I would like to retain that part of the bill because I do think that the organic growers of the state would like to have some statutory standards put in law and I think that is appropriate and I think Senator Sieck is in agreement. I have not heard of anyone that is opposed to these standards. They simply are standards that have to be met by organic growers of the state who want to participate in growing organic food in Nebraska and I think it is reasonable. But I want to point out to you very strenuously, if I may, that this bill is going to be...if you adopt this amendment, would strike all the original sections dealing with economic development in the Department of Agriculture and, in fact, it also strikes the language that we just adopted in Senator Miller's amendment because his amendment was drafted to the original language of the bill. So I suggest to Senator Miller that he refile his amendment now to the amended...if this amendment goes, which I anticipate it will, that he refile his amendment to my amendments because I am afraid, Jerry, that the amendments that you filed were to some of the sections that are going to be struck by my amendment inadvertently so it might be necessary for you to refile those. But, as I said, this bill is going to be utilized, I think, for an awful lot of different ag proposals other than the economic development proposals that were originally intended. So I think it is important that we move the amendment and get on with the others that are filed.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Johnson. The Chair would like to interrupt debate to announce we have quite a few visitors in here from city governments of the State of Nebraska. Senator Vickers has, from McCook, Mayor Duane Dueland; City Clerk, Cathy Casper and Councilman Erv Westfahl under the south balcony. And under the north balcony Lowell Johnson is over there with his group from Fremont, the Mayor, Art Peters, and from the City Administration, Jack Sutton. Senator Lamb has, from Broken Bow, under the north balcony Mayor Robert Seeger and City Clerk, Jim Peister, and also Senator Lamb has a Tree City Award group in from Anselmo. They received a...the Governor giving tree awards this morning for different cities. And Mr. and Mrs. Rod Thorell from Loomis are under the south balcony, the guests of Senator Barrett. If all of you folks would stand, we would like to