

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 419

would guess that was true in most of Saunders County and in Douglas County and in Cass County, that there's really no agricultural land changes hands...that is, truly changes hands...because someone wants to make a living producing food on that land. In the search for a solution, I was alerted by a constituent to a burgeoning problem, and it had to do...the question was, why is my farmstead being assessed as an acreage? And LB 419 reflects that problem...and there'll be a little amendment to it, and then the committee amendment. But I've found since the first of the year a hole in our assessment practices where there is no law, no part of statutes, there really isn't any regulation that governs the value of the real estate under farmsteads. Assessors can in fact arbitrarily assess any value to that particular real estate. Again, I'm not talking about acreages. And the owner has no recourse, because there's nothing to compare to. There's no sales factor, there's no production factor. It's simply a major problem. And I think there may be some other members of the Legislature who have experienced that in their counties that want to...might want to talk about that. Before we go to the committee amendments, I would tell you that after a short discussion, I intend to ask the Chair to hold this bill until...in its place...so that after I have a task force look at the issue...because this is a highly technical issue...over the interim, that we can provide to you a better solution in LB 419 than what we were able to put together as we identified problems, because it seemed as though each page we turned we found another situation that needed to be addressed in valuations. And sometimes, you know, it's not only rural ones, but there's some urban valuations and suburban valuations, the process that might need to be looked at too. But what I would ask of you today...I will have a small corrective amendment to the committee amendments. I would ask of you to adopt the...that amendment and the committee amendments. If there's any further discussion on the bill, I would ask that it happen at that time. And then, when no one wants to talk about it, we...I will ask the Speaker to hold the bill until next year. So with that, Mr. President, could we go to the committee amendments?

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Chairman of the