

March 4, 1981

LB 390

of actual value it is going to have a taxpayer revolt, and we have that in Douglas County. That's why we have a voter put lid on the Omaha school system. While in some respects they were striking out against what was happening in the schools, in many respects they were striking out against the tax structure and the sense of inequity that we urbanites feel. Now compare, for example, what does happen to somebody who pays a tax on a house to somebody who pays a tax on agricultural land. Every member in this body knows that ag land is valued differently than residential housing. Senator DeCamp knows this more than anybody else, than anybody else, that our house will be valued on the basis of what it would sell for, and that means that our assessors go out and they do a windshield inspection, and they compare house to current sales and they get a good value on that house, but agricultural land will be valued on net income flow, capitalized, which will result in a tax value substantially less than a residential value. You know, I said a \$100,000 worth of housing....

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have got one minute.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: ...in Douglas County would bear a tax of \$2,500. Do you know how much \$2,500 in taxes would probably be attributed to in agricultural land? About \$900,000. About \$900,000 because of the difference in the method of valuation. This LB 390, incidentally, already has on it the committee amendment. The committee amendment is the 80 percent valuation, 80 percent population amendment. We have put it on. We put it on in committee. We put it on in committee, it was done. But we couldn't get the votes to move the bill out. All the urban folk are asking for is some small compromise so we frankly don't walk away feeling like we have been had again, and I think statesmanship is the art of compromise.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Your time is up.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Maresh, I am going to call on you next, but before we call on you I would like to introduce from Bill Barrett's District Number 39 in the north balcony, 18 students from District 100 R near Gothenberg and 2 teachers and 4 sets of parents. Where are you located? Will you just...welcome to the Unicameral. And also from Gothenberg, Nebraska...well these are the same. The teacher is Jennie Gutierrez. All right, Senator Maresh, the floor is yours.