

March 4, 1981

LB 390

entirely agree with it but I recognize the peculiar problems of Cuming County, Stanton County, Scottsbluff County, a number of the counties. I would hope that you would not bring 390 to the floor, but use 284 as a vehicle to accomplish whatever purpose this Legislature needs or sees the need to accomplish in the coming year. I urge you not to bring 390 to the floor at this time.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Before I recognize Senator Haberman, in the north balcony from Senator Rumery's District, they were there, District 109, students from Lincoln County and 13 adults, parents of the students. Miss Wanda Nelson is the teacher. The Chair recognizes Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I passed out a letter this morning and probably you are like I am, you don't pay any attention to all the papers on your desk, but I would like to have, and call to your attention what this letter says. It was written in November...or this article in the newspaper was written November 25th by Jim Carlton. "A new emphasis on agriculture by the greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce comes partly in response to strained relationships between Omaha and other areas of the state, according to John Harling. Harling said, we want to pull the outstate communities, particularly the agribusiness community closer to the business community of Omaha." Now here is the point. Down near the bottom it says, "Several studies indicate that agriculture, agriculture either directly or indirectly contributes upwards of \$3 billion to the metropolitan area's economy." \$3 billion to Omaha's economy from the agriculture part of the state, and you say, we are trying to be greedy. Read it. It is in the news release. \$3 billion just for Omaha from the agriculture community. So when we stand up here and say, play fair, give us a break, we are serious. We are contributing our share. Also if you would like to save face, you can save face by saying to your constituents, the formula is the same as it was in 882. The formula is the same. We voted for that, so we felt it was fair to leave it at that. As far as sales value of land, we will take that up when the issue comes to the floor as we are through being led down the Primrose Path. We will take that issue when we come to it. So my point is, we are contributing \$3 billion to Omaha's economy, therefore, I ask you not to bring LB 390 out of committee. Thank you.