

of Nebraska in the business of doing that, then adopt the Burrows amendment. One other thing that I think it will do, it will drive up land prices even more than it is right now. If we are going to assist farmers that are worth up to \$600,000, with up to \$500,000 in loans, then we are going to see the State of Nebraska put out loans to buy land. And that is going to drive up land prices. Now I don't think that is a very good idea either, personally. I think the limit suggested by Senator Sieck, if we are really concerned about those people that are in dire financial difficulties, then the \$100,000 limit suggested by Senator Sieck makes some sense. If, however, we want to make this open to a full number of people, and I can tell you there is a whole number of people in agriculture today that could fall under the proposal put forth by Senator Burrows that don't have over a \$600,000 net worth. There is a lot of them. I would say there is a majority of them. If that is what we want to do, then we want to accept the Burrows amendment. If we don't feel free to do that, which I don't, then I would urge this body to reject the Burrows amendment and adopt the Sieck amendment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Cope, do you wish to speak to the Burrows amendment? Senator Barrett, do you wish to speak to the Burrows amendment?

SENATOR BARRETT: Very briefly, Mr. Speaker, I would hope that the amendment could be defeated. The Sieck amendment appears to be far more reasonable. I think the intent is to help the smaller, the smaller person, the smaller operator and it appears to me that the Burrows amendment would defeat that purpose. I think anybody with \$600,000 in assets can probably go into any bank and get most of the financing they need. I hope it would be defeated. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Schmit. Would you like to find out for us if Senator Schmit would like to speak to the Burrows amendment? Would you like to speak to the Burrows amendment?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, I would, Mr. Speaker. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I would rise in support of the Burrows amendment knowing that at this time it may be the consensus of the body that it is perhaps a little high but I would suggest also that the Sieck amendment is far too low. First of all, I want to though clarify several points. Number one, the State of Nebraska is not in the lending business. This is not the State of Nebraska. The State of Nebraska is not going to have funds involved in this program. So those of you who erroneously think that the State of