

May 5, 1981

LB 184

we have an old alien ownership act on the books against a person, but the really practical way of stopping it through the corporation route is this type legislation which parallels closely to Minnesota, Iowa and Missouri and have gone at it with a similar approach. Thank you.

SENATOR KREMER: So what you are doing, you are...in LB 184 you are stopping the conglomerates, really?

SENATOR BURROWS: Yes, sir, that is what I feel we are actually stopping.

SENATOR KREMER: Large scale interests. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, it is difficult for me to be in this position when so many of you in this body are more closely related to the industry than I am, but when Senator Burrows said something about a medium sized farm or Senator Sleck, I would like to know what a medium sized farmer is. And, first of all, how do you define a farmer? Is he a grain farmer? Is he a cattle, or what is his occupation as it relates to specialties in agriculture or agri related business? Secondly, how many sections of land are we going to start prescribing that can be in the hands of a corporate family? Are we going to keep it at one-quarter, a half a section, a section, or several sections? And fourthly, Senator Burrows says the majority of the family corporation must be involved in that operation, or, and if I stand corrected, must be held by the family. Now, what if that family is Senator Lamb and his wife, that's the majority and you also say that one must live on or participate in the day by day activities. Who is going to police that? Senator Lamb is here in Lincoln with his wife right now and I suppose that is part time duty, but he is not going to be participating day by day because his wife is here with him frequently and it may be such that he has got to retain a hired hand. So we are going to make all these judgments, and I don't think we can do it. I think we are overreacting again to something we see occasionally where they have yet to demonstrate that they can compete with that individual who is actually out there day by day taking care of his business and the agriculture he is involved in. Certainly these people do this for some advantages and we know what that is. Why don't we get at the advantage? The advantage is a