

May 13, 1981

LB 376

Have you all voted? This is on cease debate. Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, if that many people want to discuss it, let's discuss it.

PRESIDENT: All right, record the vote. We only have about...

CLERK: 21 ayes, 18 nays, Mr. President, to cease debate.

PRESIDENT: All right, the motion fails. Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President, members, I think I should just say amen to Senator Higgins speech but I do want to make one point. I have in my hands here two roll call records taken today in this body and I think they are absolutely contradictory. One of them is the vote on LB 184 which advanced this morning. This is Senator Burrows' corporate farm bill which indicates that there is an uneasiness in this body about the concentration of farm land in corporate ownership and so this body has decided that that bill has merit, was advanced this morning, that would limit corporate ownership of farm land. Then in my other hand I have the record of the vote on Senator Barrett's amendment to LB 376. Senator Barrett's motion would have stricken the multibank provisions from LB 376. Now some of the same people that voted for the corporate farm bill voted against Senator Barrett's bill. As I see it, this body is saying today that it is less concerned about the concentration of economic power than they are about the concentration of farm land in corporate ownership. I say that is not a logical position for this body to stand. If you are concerned about the corporate ownership of land you certainly should be concerned about the concentration of banks in the hands of a few people and so I ask that the bill be defeated.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Hoagland.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Mr. President and colleagues, let me just complete the remarks that I was making earlier and let me begin by asking this question. How can the forty-nine of us in this Legislature justify passing legislation which would organize the banking industry? This is a particular problem I have. I mean, what special knowledge or information do we have here that enables us to pass laws indicating how the banking industry is going to operate in the next five years, the next ten years, in the next fifty years? And what industry are we going to organize next after we finish with the banking industry? Do we want to organize the insurance industry as Senator Higgins suggests maybe we should organize? Do we want to organize the food distribution industry? What other segment of the economy do we presently organize in the