

assessed at and they will follow through with these lawsuits. I mean, we need to pass LB 361 no matter what happens with LR 2CA.

SENATOR LAMB: Thank you, I appreciate that explanation.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Before recognizing the Chair of the Ag Committee for further discussion, the Chair is pleased to announce that Senator Bernard-Stevens has a number of guests under the north balcony, Jerry and Pat Rothemeyer of North Platte and Colby Elliot, a student at Nebraska Wesleyan. Would you folks please stand and be recognized by the Legislature, please. Thank you. We're glad to have you visiting with us today. Senator Rod Johnson, followed by Senators Hall, Haberman and Landis.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Senator Rod Johnson, members, I have tried to follow this debate rather intently and to listen to the arguments being made and I think we have here a concern on one hand to address the problem this year. We've got a screwed-up system that has got to be fixed and rather than let the problem fester, we need to take means in LB 361 and deal with it. Senator Lamb, on the other hand, is possibly suggesting that maybe we let this issue lie this year, wait till next year and possibly debate the merits of LR 2CA which is the constitutional amendment to exempt ag land from the uniformity clause. I was not too excited when the farm groups approached me about adding my name to 361 and I will tell you why. The major concern I have is that we are moving, I think, toward market values driving the capitalization rates in this bill and moving away from the income earnings stream that we thought we passed in constitutional amendment number 4 back in 1984 and LB 271. It seems to me that we should have taken the advice that Senator Landis gave us last year and that some of us listened to and tried to convince this body to pass the constitutional amendment last year. We talked about it not only during the session, but we also talked about it in August when we renewed that pitch to come back in a special session and deal with this problem then. As it is now we're two years out from 1990 to deal with the problem and I see no other way to get out of this problem. Our head is in the noose now...without passing LB 361. I don't like it. As I've told some of you it's a painful situation that we're dealing with. Senator Landis is right, it's a dose of castor oil that we don't want to take but I don't see any other way that we can handle the problem. It's the only game in town at this time. I don't have any other suggestion. There are