

think Senator Hall has a piece of legislation looking at central state assessment and I don't know if that has any chance of proceeding, but it certainly seems to me that this issue today sparks a further discussion that I think needs to be looked at by this Legislature on an ongoing problem that we've had with just property valuation in general. It's there, it's a serious problem. It's one that affects all of us and I hope we can understand that we need to do things in an even broader fashion in this area because...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: ...it's really very unfair in my estimation and look forward to seeing this bill advance and then further discussion about that broader issue at a later date.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The gentleman from Anselmo, Senator Lamb. Senator Lamb, please. Senator Wehrbein, further discussion followed by Senators Hefner and Abboud.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Mr. President and members, am I on? Senator Lamb is out in the hall. I guess if he has questions he can come back. I just want to speak for 361. The handout that Senator Landis passed out does explain, I think, some of the rest. And I guess I really just want to call your attention to the fact that those of us especially in agriculture are understanding that we're taking a risk because, in supporting this bill, to the extent that it's really uncertain where land values are going to go, but we know with this bill that there is going to be an increase based on what the Supreme Court has told us. I would see this bill as perhaps a moderating effect on what...from an extreme rise in prices. We're seeing land values all over the board now. In my area we're seeing tremendous increases, so if we go by the sales or market value exclusively, we're going to know the land values are going up. I've been explaining this to many of my rural constituents that they are going up. Land values are going up and this bill, I would think, will at least put some moderacy, if there is such a word, into the degree that we're going to be doing this. As you can see in there, statewide taxes will go up and it's going to make a big difference as to where you're at. I'm going to say that I think it will impact eastern Nebraska farmland where there is a mix of rural-urban much more than it will western areas where the areas are primarily rural. Land values go up, you're going to see your mill levy go down. But in eastern Nebraska where we