

have a mix of different values of land there is going to be a tendency to take that, use that mill levy probably more than we'd like to see. But my question is, what will be the alternative? We know we have to follow the Supreme Court decision. We know that land values are going up and some way those have to come together and still make some reasonable approach for county boards to use. And I think that's the other thing that we've got to consider, where will land values be if we leave it as it is? I've used the word chaos, I've used that word for probably a year and I really believe that that is what will happen. County attorneys are going to be uncertain as to what to do with their land values as they advise county boards of equalization unless they have a bill such as this. Otherwise, I think we're going to run the risk of having the land values all over the board in 93 counties, a degree of uncertainty that is going to make for more lawsuits and without any guidance that would be useable from the state because of the uncertainty based on Supreme Court decisions. So I guess I'm supporting this because I think it's the right thing to do and agriculture is going to pay some for this because land values are going up. We were unable, as many have mentioned, to get the legislative resolution through last spring. I will tell you that it makes me more determined than ever to work on this this spring to try, in this session, to try to get this constitutional amendment on. And I won't get into that case but I will try to make that case when we get there that it is still the right thing to do to let agriculture use the income approach, but that is another issue at this time. But I think for the interim, this LB 361 is something that we've got to look at. It's the right thing to do for all concerned for all Nebraskans and that we should proceed with that.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Hefner, please.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I rise to support LB 361. I am a co-sponsor of it. I'm also a co-sponsor of the constitutional amendment that will be coming on, coming up later on this session or maybe early next year. But what this bill does, this would put agriculture land by market value or actual value. It was just several years ago that we passed a bill, I think it was LB 271, that would use earning capacity to value agriculture land, but this has been with us for many years and it's real hard to determine how we want to value different property that we have in our state. Sure, and we're certain that this is going to increase the value