

receive a positive Attorney General's Opinion on all aspects of LR 2CA. The next question, I guess, I would ask this body, and I think some have asked me, is do we need both LR 2CA and LB 361? Well, that's a matter of interpretation. In my opinion, yes, we do. I think that both bills are necessary to have in this Legislature. We have already advanced LR...or LB 361 which makes some what I consider to be short-term adjustments till we can get to a long-term, which I consider LR 2CA to be, a long-term solution to the problem of ag land valuations. It is the only way I know of that we can preserve the income earning capacity by amending the Constitution. There are other proposed formulas that can be addressed by this Legislature but I think, one, LB 361 helps correct a problem on a short-term basis, at least in my opinion, and LR 2CA would help provide a long-term solution to the overall problem that we face. The next question is, of course, and the one I have heard most of you talk about is or will LR 2CA be approved by the voters in Nebraska? It's ironic to note that in 1984 the prediction was that Amendment 4 would not be approved by the voters, yet 75 percent of Nebraska voters supported Amendment 4 in 1984. Whether or not rising ag values and rising agricultural income will sway the voters in the exact opposite way, this time around, it's difficult for me to predict and I couldn't venture to say. But let me point out, if we take no action and we don't take our case to the voters at all, then, of course, the situation that we have in existence today will continue to fester, and chaos, I think, will continue to reign and, in fact, I think we'll eventually move toward market value, as the method of valuing ag land. That, to me, personally, is not what I want to do. Finally, I'd just indicate those who will support LR 2CA. The question has been whether the farm organizations are behind this proposal. Needless to say, when I proposed LR 249 a year ago, which did basically the same thing, there was some discrepancy among the farm groups, some disagreement as to whether the constitutional amendment was the correct route to go. This time around I think they recognize that this is the only way that they can preserve the income formula using earnings without going to market and the Farm Bureau, the Nebraska Cattlemen, the Nebraska Farmers Union, the Nebraska WIFE organization and other farm organizations, the Nebraska Grange, have all come in support of this proposal. I think that shows that there is some agreement that this is, in fact, one of the only ways, the only long-term way that we can preserve the earnings capacity that we have in the state currently, and if we do not preserve it, then I assume that we