

March 15, 1989

LR 2

will move toward using market as a determining factor of valuing Nebraska agricultural land. With that, I would close my opening statements and just urge the body for the advancement of LR 2CA.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Lamb, please, followed by Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, I rise to support LR 2 and I hope that it will be advanced today. There has been a lot of discussion about the problems that we face and Senator Johnson has outlined the situation very well. In short, as you all know, seemingly a crisis is building in that there will probably be a number of lawsuits filed in regard to property tax valuations. And LB 361 has been billed as a temporary solution, LR 2 as the permanent solution. And I hope that's true. So that...I believe that those two...those two bills, the resolution and the bill, should advance in tandem here to make an effort to arrive at what seems to be a reasonable solution. Now, as Senator Johnson has indicated, we have no assurance, no assurance that LR 2 would be passed by the voters, but we have to take that chance. We have to take that chance. So I think this is a reasonable way to go. I hope that the resolution can be advanced.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Coordsen, please, followed by Senator Hefner.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I would like to yield two minutes of my time to Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Mr. President and members, thank you, Senator Coordsen, I will take a couple minutes and then it will go back to Senator Coordsen. I just wanted to remark that I strongly support this constitutional amendment proposal. As we get more and more into agricultural property values and the accompanying problems, I am more and more concerned to say that this is, I think, the potential solution to a dilemma that we're having in our property tax valuation. Nebraska, as everyone knows, is obviously an agricultural state, and still under our present circumstances with the Supreme Court, we're the only one in the nation that is attempting to tax our personal...our property at full market value. Every state in the union treats agricultural land differently. Two of them tax them at the full value but they still allow them breaks back on the value of the land, that's Wisconsin and Michigan. All the other allow a special