

think it's well to remind ourselves at this time that in residential and commercial real estate the purchasers of these types of property do have some options that aren't available to those that are in the profession of farming, in that you can't create an acre of land to farm.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR COORDSEN: You have a choice of perhaps buying a commercial building or purchasing a vacant piece of property and erecting yours...erecting one to meet your own needs if that better...is more beneficial to you. The same thing applies to people who are purchasers of residences. You do have a wide choice in most communities of where you live, of what type of house you may live in. You really don't have that in agriculture. You either are able to buy or rent land or you don't farm. So we have a situation that is deserving of a unique treatment in taxes that is reflected...reflective of the income producing potential of that land. So I think we would encourage you to advance LR 2 all the way through and see that it gets on the ballot. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Hefner is next, followed by Senator Moore. But may I introduce some guests first that we have. Senator Labeledz has some guests in the north balcony. They are 44 eighth grade students from St. Thomas More School in Omaha and their teachers. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. We also have some guests of Senator Smith. Under the north balcony, from Hastings, Nebraska, Ken Fife and Jan Krien. Would you please stand and be recognized. And also in the north balcony we have some Kiwanis led by Bob Morley from District 15 in south and north Omaha, guests of Senator Dan Lynch. Would you folks please stand. Thank you. Thanks to all of you for visiting us this morning. Senator Hefner, please.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I rise in support of this constitutional amendment and what this would do would value ag land differently from other property in our state. The people passed a constitutional amendment a few years ago, I believe it was in 1984, saying that agriculture land could be valued differently than other property. But the Supreme Court, the Supreme Court ruled differently and so we have this problem. I thought that when we adopted the earning capacity on agriculture land that it was a good way to do it because we had such changing values in agriculture land.