

issues that I think that promise is very important. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Langford, followed by Senator Chambers, Senator Elmer, Senator Labeledz and Senator Hefner.

SENATOR LANGFORD: Mr. President, colleagues, I would like someone to tell me what I'm going to say to the farmers in my area who, during this time, lost their business or lost their whole farm, lost their land, lost their cattle, and they say, whose going to pay me back. Then we have businesses in small towns who went belly up during this time. Those people lost everything they had and they say, will the Legislature pay me back. People in our part of the country had a very difficult time during the last few years when money was tight, times were tough. I, in all conscience, have been thinking very seriously about this issue. Do we, as the state, have an obligation? Do the people that I'm talking about, do they have an obligation to pay the bill back for the depositors? Then I have one question I really would like the answer for, and that is, if this money is paid, will the state take over the...whatever is left in the receivership? It certainly would be their right to do so. Has anyone given any thought to this matter? I'm sure there's land and some other things that might bring in revenue later on. Maybe Senator Landis, could you answer that question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: I think the question is, does the state take ownership of whatever remaining assets these institutions may have.

SENATOR LANGFORD: That's right.

SENATOR LANDIS: My answer to that question is no, they do not. And I'll check on that answer, but that's off the top of my head.

SENATOR LANGFORD: Well, why wouldn't they, if your bill pays back the investments that were made by the people and your bill also includes interest. I wonder why the state wouldn't take over all the assets that are left.

SENATOR LANDIS: You can answer me a question. If you want to make your argument, is that...