

April 17, 1989

LB 361  
LR 2

gaining any assistance under that program. In any event, I am trying to raise for you that here are a couple of ideas that at least for me are ideas worth considering, and without the time to pursue them, it seems like a wise course to at least raise these ideas and suggest that there may be others out there. For instance, I remember Senator Schmit had the concept of using rental figures to uniformly assess property, that that would better recognize the concerns and needs of our farmers and our ag owners, ag land owners. And I don't remember much discussion about where that issue is as another concept. What I am trying to get at is this issue can't be voted on until the fall of 1990. If we delay this issue until early next session, we will have the benefit of a couple of things; first off, the interim to further consider some of these other concepts. Secondly, we will also have the chance to see how LB 361 is working, what impact it has had, and what the situation is, and there may be other information that becomes available in the course of the following months. If we find that other alternatives not exist, if we find that other information that may come forth doesn't change our minds, acting in early January to place this on the ballot changes nothing. It will be on the ballot at the very same time, but it would help us to know better what we are attempting to do. It is a very important issue. We want to make sure we do the right thing. We want to make sure our options are clear, and we choose the best course of action. And I just simply also want to state for the record that if we do not bracket, and if we do proceed today to advance this resolution, and if it is adopted by the people of this state, I also think it is important to understand what we hope to accomplish by it. For instance, do we plan to go back to the system that we now have in place, which LB 361 would change? Do we have an open mind and will we consider our other ideas? Will we consider the chance to reevaluate our options under this issue? And it seems to me clear that we ought not to bind ourselves that we have to go back to whatever system is now in place and consider again the idea that there are other ideas out there that may be fairer and better, and I want to at least, for the record, indicate that that is my desire. I haven't voted against this bill and I don't plan to vote against it. I think, in fact, it is offering the chance to act on a very important issue, but there are other concepts and other ideas yet to be explored or discussed, although here we sit on Final Reading, and to take the time to do that, I think it is time well-spent. So I am offering this motion to give us that time to consider our alternatives, and to give us a chance to be sure we are