

14 percent increase that was going to be assessed across the board on agricultural land, on average, some of it higher, some of it lower across the state. We delayed that. We locked in the 90 value. Well, ladies and gentlemen, the 90 value is not based on 100 percent. The counties had agreed to assess everything at 90 percent of value, and the assessors are out there not uniformly assessing property at 100 percent of market. So you have 90 percent of something. The question is, what do you have 90 percent of? And I would argue that clearly it is not 90 percent of market value. My question, I guess, in not only offering this because of the constitutional issue, but offering it as it becomes the standard or the formula by which we value ag land into the future, is...and I'm going to address this on Select File, where is the base at which we start? Right now you could argue that there's at least three different starting points out there, one being 100 percent of market, one being whatever the property is valued at now, the other being whatever the value of the property now, plus the 14 percent increase that we delayed, and another, I guess a fourth could be LB 320 in the form that it is adopted, or it currently sits, and using the base that we currently have out there now. In other words, are we really at 80 percent of market, even when we do this? I think that we need to have the ability...

SPEAKER BAACK PRESIDING

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...and I'll address this in an amendment on Select File. We need to have the ability to guarantee that, that that is the base at which we begin, that those assessment practices are there and in place. If we adopt this amendment, the guarantee is there, because it's a very straightforward approach that says 80 percent of market. And you still would need the hammer, and I'll still offer that on Select File, to guarantee, or try to guarantee that the assessors at the county level do have the assessment practices in place that do bring us as close to market as possible. And there's got to be some room to maneuver there, we all know that, and there has to be adjustment ability on the county level, to a certain extent, that doesn't impugn the formula that's put in place, as Senator Landis stated. Clearly, that is true. But we're not there. We're not even close in some cases, I would argue, and we need to move closer.