

opponents of the bill yesterday circulated information which indicated that the return on these lands was relatively high. See, what I'm doing now is taking issue with that report because, according to your Legislative Research department, these lands are undervalued as valued by Educational Lands and Funds. The values they've placed on those are lower than actual values and therefore it looks like the earnings are greater than they are. That's just a fact of the matter that the earnings are not as great. You know, they're talking about 5 percent earnings on that land, I don't think it's anywhere near that amount. They also say that the value of that land is about \$270 million. I submit that when that land is sold it will bring much more than that. It will bring much more than that. So we have...we have another argument which supports the sale of school land. It will be good for the children of the State of Nebraska to sell that land. There is no doubt in my mind. Now, Senator Haberman says land is a good investment and I agree that under certain circumstances usually in private hands it is...it is good, but in public hands, that's another situation. The administration of the land is difficult but if it's in private hands, that local owner does the job, whether it's a huge Sandhill ranch or whether it's the tiniest piece of property. But when you have a state agency doing that the efficiency of that administration is much, much less and that's the reason that land is not a good investment for the state. Land is a good investment for...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR LAMB: ...a private individual who is willing to look after the land for his own benefit. So I'm asking you to advance this bill to Select File. It deserves to be advanced. I know there's still questions and I'm learning about this subject and I hope that you are still learning about it. It's an important bill. It's one that should be advanced today. Whether or not you want to pass it on Final Reading is another situation. But I do think it should be advanced so that the arguments pro and con can continue in this regard.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Lamb. Senator Robinson, you're next.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Mr. President and members of the body, I stand opposed to LB 223. I echo the sentiments of Senator Withem and Senator Dierks from yesterday. I look at the school lands