

February 26, 1992 LB 1063

people of Nebraska that we're willing to move forward on the issue. I think that regardless of whether you could support LB 1063 in its current form, regardless of whether you need amendments, regardless of whether in fact you can support LB 1063 at all, by way of demonstrating that the process is going on, that the Legislature is continuing to examine new angles on the issue, I think that we treat the people of Nebraska responsibly today by voting to put 1063 on General File. I would urge your support for this motion. Thank you.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Senator Will. Senator Wehrbein, you're next.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Mr. Speaker and members, I'll be brief because I'm not great on rhetoric and maybe we've had a lot of conversation this morning, but I simply want to say I'm going to support pulling 1063. I could give a lot of reasons philosophically but if nothing else, I think it may be the fair thing to do is to finally consider it. I really support Senator Lamb's bill. That is what I really want and I will be working to amend 1063, but my real point is I think it's time to face reality. Reality is that we had a chance yesterday in 1120 to do what many of us would like to do. That is considered the ultimate by many including many across the state. I recognize that. The real world is that we did not get enough votes for that and I don't see that we've got enough votes to get to that point. My fall back position, if you will, is 1063 and have it amended so that it is what is perceived to be fair for all. One of the real frustrations I have in all my times here is the fact that we have to deal with perception many times rather than reality. It seems to me sometimes in politics reality becomes perception, perception becomes reality and I think that I...I wish that there was a way that everyone could have heard the debate the last few days all across the state so that everyone would have the same understanding as to what is being faced here as we debate these issues. Many times I think when we start out with faulty premises we're going to come to an illogical conclusion. There are those even today that think that agriculture is not paying its fair share and I would say based on faulty premises. For example, ag land is valued at 80 percent, that is true. It is not true that residen...farm residents are taxed at that same basis. Farm residents, I will repeat, farm residents are taxed at the same value as they are anywhere in the state whether it be city or rural. That is a fallacy to think then that there is a break there but I have