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LB 1063

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newspapers praising the farmers and ranchers of Nebraska for having done an producing an abundance of low cost, healthy, wholesome, high quality of food. The balance of the rest of the year most of the editorials are, of course, oriented toward business and that is maybe the way it is to be expected because very few of the people who write for the papers and very few of the people who are publishers ever grew up on a farm. Senator Warner says that terrible things will happen if we do not do this to business and to industry and he is probably partly right. But he has not told you, and it amazes me that he has not told you, is that he is willing to sacrifice himself, to be fair, as a farmer, as a livestock person, but all the rest of Nebraska agriculture on the altar of expediency because the inventory persons, automobile dealers, merchants, have abandoned the group that worked together to try to craft a tax policy that was more equitable that was based upon income and sales taxes rather than upon property taxes. For 25 years, as Senator Moore has pointed out, we have tried to move away from reliance upon property toward the reliance upon sales tax and income tax. As of today we are saying to Nebraska agriculture that we are going to place your items of production back on the tax rolls and there is only one way it can go. Ladies and gentlemen, it will not stop today with the present system. It will each year, as Senator Warner has indicated, services will be demanded and there will be a pressing need for revenue and that revenue will come from the only entity that cannot fight back that will continue to be less represented on this floor in the future than it is today. It will come from agriculture. LB 1063 is designed to raise revenue, it will raise a lot more revenue in years to come. Senator Warner talks about budget cuts. Senator Warner, we have doubled the General Fund expenditure of the State of Nebraska in the last five years. We have seen substantial increases in local government spending. We have not had that kind of growth in population, but we continue to grow in the spending area. One of my constituents asked me at a meeting the other night, don't you people ever hear about roll back. My cattle prices were rolled back from \$82 to 68; hogs, from 68 to 38, we know all about that. And of course, I don't expect any sympathy nor understanding and certainly do not expect any charity from the nonrural legislators. It is the nature of politics, ladies and gentlemen, that when you've got the hammer, you use it, and that's the way the system works and I accept that. The thing that I do not understand is the willingness of agricultural legislators to acquiesce as easily, to accept, whether it's energy tax or fertilizer tax. It's