

recognize Senator Chambers, followed by Senators Haberman, Schmit, Rod Johnson and Wesely. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, it's often said that Nebraska is an agricultural state, which is not strictly true, in my opinion. Most people don't make their living from agriculture. When people talk about what is produced by agriculture only 2 percent of the working population is actually involved directly in agriculture, only 2 percent of the working population. When they talk about the impact of agriculture on the overall economy, they're talking about indirect aspects of it too, food processing, retailing and other things like that. But if you're talking about the actual production of agricultural products, 2 percent of the nation's working population is involved in agriculture. Less than 3 percent of the population is involved in farming. Yet when it comes to the amount of the federal budget that grows faster than any other one, it is the subsidies that goes...that go to agriculture. Since nothing in agriculture happens in a vacuum, it's very easy to stand on the floor of the Nebraska Legislature and say this multinational corporation wants to come to Nebraska and give jobs to Nebraskans and buy crops from Nebraska. But Cargill is not coming here to help Nebraska. Cargill's interests are adverse to those of the small farmer. Anybody and everybody should know that. So when you invite somebody into your home whose interests are adverse to yours you should be very careful of how you deal with that individual. And I am not in a position, in view of the fact that Cargill has made no guarantees to support this resolution, putting the Legislature on record as saying, we, next year, are going to do certain things when we don't even know right now whether we can do it or not. It seems to me that Governor Nelson would have sense to know that somebody is going to ask the question as to what Cargill has promised the state in return. And the most obvious thing they should promise is to buy a certain amount of their corn from Nebraska farmers. They have not done that. They probably will not do that. So what is it that we're dealing with here? Something that at first blush and on the surface looks very alluring, seems very valuable to the state but there is no guarantee that it will be any of the things that are being represented to us here today. All that Senator Wehrbein can do is tell us what has been told to him. What Senator Wehrbein is asking us to do is to obligate ourselves in advance by giving our collective word that we're going to do certain things to obligate the citizens of this state to extend