

represent rural districts are going to be able to put together a coalition, along with business interests, and get what you want, and you'll get the 30 votes, and the Governor won't ever be able to...he'll be powerless to do anything about it, because the votes will be there. Well, I was off the floor, unfortunately, for a short period of time and I've said I support those exemptions. I didn't vote for 775, but I don't like to change things around. But I cannot believe that 18 rural area senators said, yep, we'll give you yours, and then we'll trust in God and the country and people of the State of Nebraska to get ours. I do not know what ConAgra pays Mike Harper, but the farmers of Nebraska ought to pay him twice as much, ought to pay him twice as much. He'd never have to be down here and he'd earn it walking away whistling, because we got 55 million acres of farmland, 10 million head of livestock, whatever it would cost he would be cheap. He knows his business and he does it well. Marty and Dick came down this morning and pulled 18 farm votes out for this amendment, and that's it. And I must congratulate them for it. The only chance we had, gentlemen, to get our exemptions was to stick together. I don't like to go back and run over it again, but back in 1976 there would have never...we would have never taken the tax off, and Senator Beutler is correct, if we would have all put the coalition together and everybody hung together, business, industry, farmers, cattle feeder. We took the farm equipment first, we took the business inventory second, and the cattle last. We didn't even trust each other that far, we took them in three years, and that was the way we did it. Now you have opted out, my good rural friends have given the 775 exemptions, and said, well, it will probably work out all right. Ladies and gentlemen, there is an old saying here that, if God didn't mean for sheep to be shorn, he wouldn't have given them fleece. But in this case they took the skin and all. We ought to all be wearing sheep skins because it's gone. I hope you were listening when Senator Beutler said, when you put that rural valuation, the personal property back on the tax rolls, you're going to lose millions of dollars from the rural areas on 1059 money. How much? Sixteen million, Scotty says. You know Chris is telling you, and you still rush right on into the maelstrom. I don't know. And that in spite of the fact that we casually don't count 114 million dollars...billion dollars, pardon me, it's a small mistake, 114 billion dollars of intangibles as a part of the wealth of urban Nebraska. Senator Crosby is smiling. She comes from central Nebraska, so she's made the transition, she did it very graciously. I don't mind you folks doing it to us, ladies and