

August 12, 1992 LB 1, 2, 3

farm equipment has resulted in significant valuation increases in most counties of the state. The inclusion of breeding livestock at a depreciated value has shifted even more of the burden of supporting local government to the agricultural sector with no compensating offset in the reduction of taxes in another field.

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Is this rational tax policy? I think not. Rational tax policy indicates to me that all of the citizens of Nebraska who share in the benefits of the services provided by government, which is why we are organized into structures of government to provide services we can't provide for ourselves, should be borne as nearly as possible among all Nebraskans. I have counties where before 1063 over 80 percent of the cost of local government other than municipal levies were borne by the owners of agricultural property with less than 20 percent of the reportable income.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR COORDSEN: This only exacerbates that problem. It is an effort, I think, to make an irrational tax policy a little more rational but it still remains irrational tax policy for any state to follow. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President and members. The issue of this amendment and how it came about in committee I guess needed just a bit of clarification. LB 1 was introduced to the body along with LB 3, and both were referenced to Revenue. The balance of the bills in this session went to Government Committee, except LB 2, which went directly to General File. A number of members came to me and asked, what should we do, and this is prior to the session, about issues we have concerning 1063 changes, most of them technical? I asked, rather than having the expense in a number of bills that would require separate hearings, that they come to the Revenue Committee and offer them in the form of amendments. The Revenue Department was well aware of that. They were well aware of some of the changes. For example, Senator Coordsen's, he put folks on notice with a letter back early in July about this specific issue. Senator Lowell Johnson did the same. Those were the two