

Maurstad puts in when he says "may" rather than "shall", and it would probably add to the substance of the legislation. So, with that, I would support Senator Maurstad's amendment and then Senator Beutler's amendment.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Senator Elmer, your light is next. Do you wish to address the Maurstad amendment?

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Senator Will. Kind of indirectly, there's been quite a little conversation in the Chamber about the necessity for filing this form or questionnaire that would be sent to corporations that are engaged in farming or own farmland. First, if I could engage with Senator Matzke in just a brief dialogue, Senator Matzke, would you be willing to respond?

SENATOR WILL: Senator Matzke.

SENATOR MATZKE: Yes.

SENATOR ELMER: Senator Matzke, as a corporation or an entity similar to a corporation files this required paperwork or articles with the Secretary of State, how could the Secretary of State determine which of these entities should be required to submit...have this form submitted to them to be completed?

SENATOR MATZKE: Well, I think the most practical way the Secretary of State could do that would be to take the occupational tax form that goes to every corporation in the state and just add a few questions to it and ask if the corporation owned farmland, and that would be a questionnaire that would go to every corporation in the state. And I don't know how else the Secretary of State could find out and that would be a simple way of handling it. Then the Secretary of State would have the information as to what corporations own farmland and which didn't. Then it's a question of whether the Secretary of State would pursue it or whether the corporation would have to file additional information.

SENATOR ELMER: All right, then follow that just a little bit, this form is sent out and has to be submitted by the first of or the 15th of April, 1997, if I'm getting the amendments that are going to be proposed and so forth correct. In the original questioning then, would he then include the form with every