

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, so that does.... If I see being required to sell off 95 percent of the land at one fell swoop, or by that certain date as a bad thing, your amendment would mitigate the impact of the existing language, to some extent.

SPEAKER WITHEM: By about 45 percent.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. I'm in support of Senator Withem's amendment.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President, members. I rise in support of the Withem amendment as well. It isn't.... I'm very concerned about the sale of the lands. I think that in fact I wouldn't want to see any of them sold, unless it was absolutely necessary. So this is less than I would hope for. But I still think that it is a reasonable compromise, so I will support the Withem amendment. I'm passing out for you an article that I just got from USA Today, last week. And if you have a chance to look at it, it talks about this Wall Street miracle and how we've seen such a rise in the value of stocks over the course of the last year or so. What it says, basically, if you have a chance to look at it is, the actual value with the prices that we're now paying for the stock does not match up. They're identifying this as a mania, that people have such an allure, alluring attraction to the payments made on the stock market, that people are overinvesting and overpaying for the value of the stocks that they're receiving. And the question is, how long will it last? They make some comparisons to other types of mania that have occurred over the years. What I am suggesting, and I do hope you have a chance to look at it, is one always hopes that the stock market will remain strong. One always hopes that we'll see investments made continue at the level that they're at. But let's just speculate for a moment if that doesn't hold. Let's say that the market is at this level, higher than the value involved, and let's say it drops in the future at some point. Now we're at this point going to be talking about divesting our land and investing perhaps, perhaps not in the stock market. But nevertheless, it's a possibility that we'll be buying at the high end and see that turn around and reverse and perhaps the value drop in terms of a lower value in time. And that is the ebb and flow of the market. Now over time, obviously, it always continues on and everybody always