

this is going to be the worst thing that ever happened down here. Nothing is going to change. Right now ag land is at 80 percent; everything else is 90 to 100, or it should be. Nothing is different than it is right now. This amendment doesn't have to go off. It's not going to affect 92CA (sic) one bit. It's another scare tactic that everybody's, oh, my gosh, the sky is falling. The sky isn't going to fall. There is nothing wrong with this amendment. The Schrock amendment was a good amendment that needs to stay on this bill. If agriculture is the biggest beneficiary of this bill, it's because we pay the most taxes. The most unfair taxes that ag has are property taxes. When you look at the ability to pay, what segment of this economy pays the most tax with the least income? It's agriculture. That's why this amendment needs to be on there. It isn't going to affect the bill any. It still has to go to a vote of the people. This body isn't the final say-so. Consider what you're doing. This bill or this amendment does not have to be reconsidered. It's a good amendment. It's not going to affect 92CA (sic) one bit. The rest of the package can go forward. It's only...would only let the voters approve what's currently into statute. Currently what we're doing. Nothing will change. I don't see why everybody said this is something like, gosh, I can't believe this happened. It's a good amendment and anybody that has any compassion at all for the taxpayers of this state needs to leave it right where it is, because 80 percent for ag land is probably too high anyway. Senator Schrock said that Kansas is only at 35 percent. No wonder people in Nebraska complain about property taxes. We pay too much property tax. Senator Withem is right, we need to find some other way to fund education, to fund local government, so I don't see why it's such a big deal to change this amendment. It's something, it was put on a bill with 25 votes. Let's leave it there. Mr. Chairman, I'd give Senator Bernard-Stevens my time. Thank you.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you. Senator Bernard-Stevens, you have about two minutes.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. Senator Coordsen, members of the body, I too rise in opposition to the reconsideration motion. And, being a district that I have which is prominently the vast number of people are in North Platte but also the mixture of urban and rural, I'm on one of those swing districts, and this is one where I very strongly