

and I would urge you not to get swept away with the emotion of the issue, but look at what...that you are not protecting what you think you're protecting because it simply is not the way it is, and I'd urge that the amendment be not adopted.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam Lieutenant Governor, members of the Legislature, I am very sorry that the rhetoric of division has become so loud today because I think, I really believe if we all keep our eye on the prize, and the prize is this package, and if we do not become obsessed with an illusion, that farmer and city boy, alike, are all going to benefit most from keeping this package together without getting off on an amendment like Senator Schrock's. What's real and what's not real, if we succeed in putting this package together and passing it through the Legislature, we know that it is pretty much real that the farmer out there, on the average, is going to get a 20 percent reduction in his property taxes. That's real. That's something that he did not have before that he will have after. The Schrock amendment doesn't put another nickel in a farmer's pocket, doesn't reduce property taxes by another nickel. Maybe it provides a level of protection, but not much. Is that illusion, that level of protection that could be wiped away so easily anyway by one mechanism or another, is that worth really risking a very real 20 percent reduction in property taxes? I think not. All the horses have been pulling together, urban and rural. They've got a pretty good load. They are going in the right direction, and they are going at a pretty good pace. Why would you want to throw a rattlesnake in the road? That is what this is all about, I think, not an intentional act, but disruption, but, in fact, an act of disruption. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body. I have been in production agriculture all my life, as many of the members have, and I understand that life of human beings on earth is about 35 days long were it not for what people in my profession do. I also know that that profession in Nebraska and in the United States is in a tremendous amount of economic distress. I also know that in much of rural Nebraska the owners of agricultural property, investors, farmer owners, whoever they are, retired people, in most instances are called