

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 24, 1999 LB 835

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SENATOR RAIKES: ...sort of the only one...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Mr. Clerk, do you have an announcement?

ASSISTANT CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. The Exec Board will have a brief executive session in Room 2022 at ten o'clock; that's Exec Board, ten o'clock, 2022.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Further discussion on the advancement of LB 835. Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I want to make just a couple of quick comments and then continue my economics education. In terms of goals for state government in this area, I mentioned yesterday and I will repeat, maybe unnecessarily, but it seems to me it's reasonable that we attempt to achieve market access, that all participants are allowed to gain prices, exchange opportunities in a market, that those prices be representative, that they reflect actual supply and demand conditions, and this, I think, is a little bit what Senator Chambers is getting after, and also that the compet...the transactions costs are, in fact, competitive. I think those are three important goals and to the extent, and to a large extent I think LB 835 does address those goals and is the reason I do support it. I would say that there are a couple of cautions I would throw out. One is that if you outlaw or eliminate certain exchange arrangements, certain contractual possibilities, then you run into the danger that you may limit those who you want to help in addition to those you want to restrict. For that reason, my preference is to try to do as little of limiting alternatives as is possible. But I understand that that's not always completely possible. And with that, if Senator Chambers had some things you'd like to continue with, I would yield my time.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President, and thank you, Senator Raikes, and I appreciate your patience. I am not an expert on agriculture and I don't even pretend to be, but I'm