

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

April 26, 1999 LB 630

significant size. I'm not going to get into sizes because different...there's different ideas of that, but I agree, sadly. And I'm going to have another bill to look at the structure of agriculture. But the point is, this is an opportunity for young persons to get started in a viable operation and I...you would be surprised at what the size of a viable operation might be if it can be made viable. It certainly can't be made viable today hardly under any circumstances. But I would say that there hopefully is some future in agriculture in three to five more years. I should have gone into the history of agriculture. Throughout the 150 years of agriculture in this country, the classic way of starting to farm was to hire on as a hired man in those days. Then you work up to a rental farm and you rent land for several years from a landlord or whatever, and then eventually you become an owner. And by the time you're 40 or...or 50 or 60 years old, you may become an owner. That's the historical classic way of starting, just as Senator Chambers mentioned. This is a way, because of the times and the amount of dollars it takes to get started farming, today having a sizeable operation is a necessity to get started. That's exactly what this bill is intended to do. I again will not say what that size could be. Some may make it on a smaller farm. Some may have their wives working at a significant job off the farm with which they would not have to have as large a farm to make it. But, by and large, this is going to be designed for a fairly sized operation or there will be no way that a person can make a living at it. That's what this bill is designed for. So Senator Chambers makes my point completely. To get back on the subject, before I lose time, I'm going to support Senator Wickersham's amendment to his amendment. I still don't like Senator Wickersham's main amendment, AM1478. I still like my bill, LB 630, better, Senator Bob, but I will support your amendment. I hope I'm not making your bad bill enough better that it becomes enticing, but I do support what you're trying to do in this amendment.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor and colleagues. I listened to Senator Chambers talk about his barbershops and the problem he had with leasing one or renting a