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or nearly all of it, and I am fearful that that is the trend that we are on, I would go into more of that, then I believe that we need to stop and look at it. There are many say that there is no way that we can change the national trend; you can't change the economics. And perhaps we can't, but I felt that perhaps a task force looking at this could provide some insight and, hopefully, some ability to bring some answers at least to be suggested here in this body, and ultimately to the federal level for possible inclusion. There are lots of task forces working across the country. There was just one recently in St. Louis where ag organizations got together, but I believe it's important with agriculture being the 10 to 12 billion dollar industry it is in this state that Nebraska would be listened to, if we, as the Legislature, were willing to take some action in terms of facing national public policy in terms of agriculture. That's the reason for my bill, and I would hope that you would listen carefully and consider it favorably. I've got tons of handouts which I'm not going to pass out, but to set the stage for what I think is a very critical issue, and with that I'd let Senator Dierks have his time for his committee amendments, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Chairman of the Ag Committee, Senator Dierks, to open on the committee amendments.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. The committee amendments are fairly straightforward. There is some suggestions that members of the committee had that we talked with Senator Wehrbein about and one of the things that it does is it names the Ag Committee's Chairperson to serve...to serve on this task force as one of the two legislative representatives. The bill, itself, sets up a 15-member committee and requires...the committee amendments require that 8 members of the task force have to be present to make up a quorum, and it requires that 8 members of the task force to approve valid and official recommendations, and it requires a minimum of 6 meetings prior to December 15th of this year. So it will entail some work and this is the substance of the committee amendments. I urge your support of them. I also