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SENATOR JANSSEN: ...resource we have in this state, if you'll look at everything else that's connected with it. How many cows do we have out there? Senator Jones has more cows and calves in his district than he does people. And you get into Cuming County and some of those other counties where you have the cattle feeders, still more cattle than there are people. Those farmers are getting fewer and fewer every year. The farms are getting bigger. We need to have a voice; we need to have a committee that deals with...deals with agriculture, specifically agriculture. Those are my feelings, and I'm going to stick with my convictions to the ag sector in this state. Thank you. Thank you, Senator Schrock, for the time.

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

SENATOR BEUTLER: I wanted to speak a little bit about alternatives. I hope that we all agree that there's a problem in Judiciary, and perhaps we don't agree on the solution, perhaps we think referencing is the solution to the problem. And let me tell you that, in terms of the legislative history on this matter, that's where the matter went first, that's where the Chairmen of the Judiciary Committee went first to get a rectification in terms of referencing. Three years ago the Executive Board did a study on how to resolve this problem. I don't know if they ever issued a final report, but I can tell you what the conclusions were, that it couldn't be solved by re-referencing, and, two, that the best solution was the combining of the Ag and Natural Resources Committee. And I think it didn't go anywhere at that time because there was so much opposition. But interestingly enough, the opposition was all over the place. I, for example, being Chair of the Natural Resources Committee at that point in time, was against it. I was against it for two reasons; one, because I thought that referencing, re-referencing, restructuring the referencing could solve the problem, but three years now have passed since then and absolutely nothing has changed in terms of referencing. And secondly, I didn't want it to happen because I thought it would put the environment, perhaps, at a disadvantage to be a part of an Ag Committee. But over time I've come to feel that, if the environment has to be in with some other group, that the best place for it to be is in with farmers and ranchers. Because