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PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to close.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, not on the amendment that I'm offering, but kind of in response to some of the things Senator Wehrbein said earlier, I came down to this Legislature about 30 years ago. And at that time, I spent a lot of time talking about ag problems. I talked about confinement feeding of hogs and people didn't pay attention to me, and I can find the record of it. And I talked about how that was going to become the wave of the future and the damage it was going to do to rural communities and those who were trying to compete. And because I didn't come from a farm, people disregarded it. I pointed out during that period when ag land values were skyrocketing that it's like building...trying to build a house and you continue to build at an angle, and the higher it gets and the steeper the angle, the less there is supporting the outer most part of the structure and it's going to collapse, and that happened. And it was...it didn't require any ability to read the future but just to look at the trends that were developing. I've said down through the years that these so-called family farms are a thing of the past, that the people who own them and try to work them were in a holding action, that's all. It was not going to be a viable economic unit. It could not survive. There's been a tendency to romanticize the farm, the farm community, the farm economy. Now the reality is coming to fruition. There is such a requirement of capital outlays, huge holdings to make a good living in agriculture. I had pointed out that there, and I say it again, there will always be the production of crops and livestock. The question, and the only question is, who is going to do the producing? Not all the people who are on the land right now with these family farms will have to leave the land, they can become sharecroppers, which is something my people were in the south, and they'll get a taste of what that means where you're figured in not as a human resource but as a part of the capital, a part of the property. These big companies are going to produce food. They will produce more of it. They will produce it more efficiently, meaning that it won't cost them as much per unit as it might cost some little person because that terrible term "economy of scale" will come into play. So this that we're doing with this bill is not going to forestall the inevitable.