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PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Coordsen, would you yield?

SENATOR COORDSEN: I will respond, Mr. President.

SENATOR VRTISKA: First of all, let me say I appreciate this bill because I think it touches the very area that we need to be discussing and do something about, but in looking at the committee amendment I noted that you have six people on a committee. Is that correct?

SENATOR COORDSEN: That is what the white copy said. I was approached by the President of NACO asking that a seventh person, either another county assessor or an AHLVB board, that's Agricultural Land Valuation Board, be added to that, but that all happened just this morning, Mr. Vrtiska, so that probably could come as a Select File amendment.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Oh, well, I was just curious because I know sometimes the six-member boards are difficult because of the opportunity to have a tie vote and I was, you know, I guess looking at it realistically. Many times an odd number is...works better. And also I'd thought about a county board member or a member of that board who might, in fact, add some knowledge to that board, and so if you'd consider that I would be willing to listen. I think it would be important to...for the two reasons, first of all, for the added knowledge and, secondly, to have an odd number of people, not odd people, but odd number of people on that board. And so I think that that's something that I would like to bring to your attention and maybe you could bring an amendment. You think on Select you might bring an amendment up to in fact address that issue? With that, again, I thank you for your response. With that, again, I would certainly support this legislation because I think this is something probably long overdue and we need to take up the issue and come to some kind of a resolution of the problem with our agriculture tax...taxes in this state. And with that, thank you, Senator Coordsen, for bringing this bill to us. With that, I'll turn the rest of the time...my time back to the Chair.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Bromm, on the committee amendments.