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FLOOR DEBATE

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to come out and pay top dollar for. So he didn't want to get trapped into...and the phenomenon of having acreages as comparable sales. He thought the contiguous land would be a fairer treatment. Rule got changed. Some assessors did it. Some assessors went nuts. Many assessors didn't bother, and left it all alone and sort of ignored it. And now Senator Baker's law comes in, at the request of the assessors, who have been very spotty in their application of what we would call the Coordsen law. And they had one way to do this, which said, essentially, you know, let's do away with the farm site special definition in this area with the contiguous land, and essentially go back to comparable sales. We advanced the bill out that took out the contiguous land rule from Senator Coordsen. I'm going to guess that the Farm Bureau amendment wants us to be sure that the comparable sales, as best as we can define them, will not include the acreage. And the way they want to do that is to include functionality as a determining factor of what is a comparable sale or not, on the...I'm going to guess the theory being that a functioning farm will use this land for one function, where in an acreage they won't use this kind of land for the same function, and they will not be equivalents. Now, that's my best explanation for what I think the current situation is. But I'm going to yield the remainder of my time to Senator Baker to correct me if I've misstated something along the way. I will say this. I think the language is designed to use comparable sales again rather than contiguous land, and that was always our rule, and that it is also meant to sharpen our idea on comparable sales so that acreages that are nonfarms, high value, speculative ventures by urban dwellers who want to live in nature, don't get used as an analogy to the farm site of a functioning farm. I think that's what the amendment is supposed to do, which is why I think it's fine. Senator Baker, you can have the remainder of my time.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BAKER: One minute?

SENATOR CUDABACK: You have one minute, Senator.