

the economy of our state in rural Nebraska and the family farmer, and I don't think that fine line is really defined in the Constitution as it now exists, and I think it does need fixing. So I would ask you to support my effort to reconsider our action the other day, give us a chance to discuss it just briefly. I really don't mean to burden this Legislature unnecessarily with any more conversation about an issue that you would rather maybe not have to talk about again, and I apologize for any compromising or uncompromising positions it may have put any of the senators who especially have to live in areas where Initiative 300 is a more important issue than in my area, but it is important to my area and I want you to understand that because I can see down the line unless this is fixed, somehow fixed, hopefully outside the Constitution, but if it must stay in the Constitution, fixed in the Constitution with another vote of the people, that in the long run we will be sorry that this ever happened. I hope you understand the reason I did this. I think it is important we can reconsider it, and I would ask you to do that now at this time. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Rupp, and I would like to give you the speaking order briefly after this, after Senator Rupp, Senator Hefner, Senator Harris, Senator Remmers, Senator Chambers, DeCamp, Vickers, Sieck, Nelson, Conway, Baack, Landis, Higgins, Rod Johnson, and Nichol. Senator Rupp.

SENATOR RUPP: Mr. President, colleagues, I, first of all, want to thank Senator Lynch and congratulate him for his courage. Obviously, I support the motion to reconsider. It does require courage to even be on the floor when this issue is discussed because, as I said last time, we have good sincere people on both sides of this fence, and it is like a political hot stove, there is no way we can touch it and not be burnt. A couple of items of unfinished business from the last debate I want to add on to. Senator Nelson the last time talked about the Pawnee Springs Ranch and the ownership of it, and so forth, that the Kiewit Corporation and who some of the owners were. The part of the story that wasn't told is that it has been listed for sale for several years. Now there was a buyer, as I understand, down in Texas that was prevented from buying it by Initiative 300. The ranch is now virtually unsalable. It is ninety some thousand acres. The proponents of Initiative 300 would say, well, that is fine, that is the way it is supposed to work, now 90